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Biography

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MEMOIRS
OF
THE LIFE AND WRITINGS
OF
JAMES MONTGOMERY,

EDITED BY
SELECTIONS FROM HIS CORRESPONDENCE, REMAINS IN PROSE
AND VERSE, AND CONVERSATIONS ON VARIOUS
SUBJECTS.

BY
JOHN HOLLAND AND JAMES EVERETT.

VOL. VII.

" There is a living spirit in the lyre,
A breath of music and a soul of fire,
It speaks a language to the world unknown,
It speaks that language to the heart alone."
Walter Scott's MS.

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PREFACE TO VOLUME SEVENTH.

AT the conclusion of this work, nothing further need be said of the relation of the biographers whose names appear together on the title-page, than was stated in the Preface affixed to the first volume. The biographers have, however, one or two pleasant duties jointly to perform.

And first, they cannot but acknowledge the liberality of the publishers of these Memoirs, in engaging in so voluminous a work. which, on several grounds, was likely to be the reverse of popular or profitable. By adopting this course, they showed themselves willing to participate in an early, earnest, and not unpromising effort to raise a monument to the memory of a man, and in honour of a poet, with whom during so many years they had enjoyed agreeable, personal, as well as satisfactory business intercourse: and this public acknowledgment is felt by those who now make it, to be only embodying what they believe would have been gratifying to their departed friend himself, could he have anticipated the nature of the transaction.

The biographers have also to express their grateful

acknowledgments to those individuals who have so kindly and so freely contributed towards what must be allowed to form a most precious and instructive, as well as illustrative, element of these volumes,—the original Letters of Montgomery. To specify all the contributions to this essential characteristic of the work, would appear as ostentatious as it is unnecessary. But it would seem hardly just not to mention Mr. Leader, who placed in our hands the whole of the voluminous correspondence with his late relative, Mr. (afterwards the Rev. Dr.) John Pye Smith, at a most critical period of the poet's life; William Jevons, Esq., of Liverpool, for the Roscoe letters; the Rev. Dr. Raffles; Mrs. Mary Anne Everett Green, for the letters addressed to her late father, the Rev. Robert Wood; the Rev. Peter Latrobe, who in this and other ways has contributed to enrich a work, which we are gratified to believe he, and the Moravian Brethren generally, are willing to accept as a fair and friendly reflex of the peculiar relation which subsisted between Montgomery and themselves; Henry Bewley, Esq., of Dublin, for the correspondence between the poet and Miss Rowntree, the worthy Quakeress; Mrs. McCoy, for the letters to George Bennet, which indeed, as well as those forming the Aston collection, and some others, came into our hands by the intervention of the writer himself during his lifetime; our friend, John Blackwell, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mrs. Foster, of Woolwich; to Samuel Roberts, Esq., and the Rev. J. J. Montgomery. There are two other individuals from whom, even at the risk of offending their delicacy, we must not withhold a more explicit acknowledgment of our obligations,—we mean Miss

Gales and **M**allalieu. The former, from her familiar and almost lifelong intercourse with the poet, **was** naturally **so** intimately acquainted with his domestic and general habits; and towards her and her sisters he always spoke and acted with the frankness and kindness of **a** brother — a confidence which they mutually **so** severally deserved. Shrinking, as this lady naturally **did** at first, from the idea of placing in **his** hands the confidential letters addressed **to** her by Montgomery, she ultimately allowed considerations of what was due **to** the memory of her revered and faithful friend, and, indeed, to her **own** place in his regard, to outweigh her other feelings, and extracts from the letters in question occupy their due position in the narrative. To the poet's niece our thanks are **more** specially due; **a** member of the sisterhood at Fulneck, and **a** favourite of her uncle, with much of his gentle piety, she not only from the first evinced such **a** affectionate interest in the success of this effort to do honour to the memory of her distinguished relative, **as** **well** alike creditable **to** her head and her heart, but she contributed directly, by letter and otherwise, much useful aid, which **was** the more welcome from its identification with the frank and grateful spirit of the writer.

It **will** not be deemed either impertinent or presumptuous if **a** position be claimed for the Memoirs of Montgomery, **as** which the Life of Cowper alone affords a precedent in **our** modern literature: hence, in dealing with **an** unusual **a** concurrence of genius and piety, and in **a** layman too, the appropriate **use** of scriptural terms, and the recognition of evangelical truths, **are** somewhat strange **to** the "general reader," will **be** in-

telligible enough ■ ■ ■ really "Christian public" which ought ■ be specially interested in these pages.

The appearance of ■ work in several volumes, by inviting contemporary notice from the periodical press, often tends ■ place ■ author and his critics in ■ peculiar, ■ ■ say ■ mutually unsatisfactory relation. As, however, neither our position ■ ■ ■ treatment in this respect ■ ■ been uncommon, it would argue but little wisdom ■ ■ to expand these remarks into ■ review of ■ ■ reviewers, ■ ■ while admitting ■ strong temptation ■ do so. For amidst much of what they have said, whether flattering ■ otherwise, the obvious discrepancy of their opinions on ■ ■ points, and their palpable mistakes on others, ■ amusing enough; nor less ■ their manifestations of individual character. For example, one critic — not ■ worshipper of wealth, ■ ■ should have thought — has discovered that "Montgomery ■ ■ not conversant with large ■ ■ of money;" another, that his pecuniary contributions to religious objects were not proportionate to his means; ■ third, reversing these disparagements, that he ■ ■ ■ rich ■ ■ ■ abate the old reproach of poetry ■ synonymous with poverty. Again, the biographers ■ ■ congratulated, on the one hand, upon the aid they have received from papers communicated by the executor of the poet; and ■ the other, they are told how much the latter would have compressed, ■ ■ ■ himself lived to publish the "Autobiography," of which they have ■ ■ the ■ ■ the simple facts in relation ■ these allegations being, 1. that we have ■ ■ received a single line of the ■ ■ from the party thus indicated; nor, ■ are ■ ■ aware, ■ ■ do we believe, that the poet ■ ■ ■ ■

of autobiography beyond what may perhaps be called such in the preface to his collected works. On this subject alone our censors unanimous, viz., that the work is bulky: this, indeed, is a plain and broad mark that the bluntest bolt aimed by the blundering hand cannot miss it; there is nothing to offer in mitigation of the fault, if fault it be; say the work is what it is from the first intended to be in this respect, will no more obviate the objection than it lessens the ground of it.

There has been a criticism raised on a special ground, in reference to which, as it affects the character of the subject even more than the execution of this biography, I desire to say a few words.

One of the kindest reviewers of the earlier volumes says, — "Sundry third and fourth-rate folk occupy too much space, since the point of contact with Montgomery brings out a remarkable feature of his character." With all deference to our friendly critic, we are to think that the poet's life-long "contact" with, and consideration for, the "folk" in question *does* bring out a very valuable, as well as "remarkable, feature of his character." How that character might have been apparently intrinsically modified, had it found free development amidst the stimulating influences of frequent exclusive contact with the master-spirits of the age, or how its temporary estimation in such a narrative as ours might have been affected by the substitution of titles of nobility for the names of men and women, many of whom are not of "third or fourth-rate celebrity," need not say, though the materials for such invidious comparison

were ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ seek. ~~The~~ course, the ~~the~~ with which he listened to ~~the~~ modest aspirant to literary distinction, how obscure ~~the~~ ~~the~~ station, was ~~the~~ likely ~~the~~ ~~the~~ greater than that with which he ~~the~~ the ~~the~~ of humble piety ~~the~~ importunate poverty in every form. From the pulpit ~~the~~ the press, in prose and rhyme, the "brotherhood of humanity" ~~the~~ been often dwelt upon ~~as~~ a pleasing theme; but whatever may ~~the~~ ~~the~~ of the practical exemplification of the doctrine by politicians or preachers, essayists ~~the~~ poets, ~~the~~ particular ~~the~~ the individual whose memoirs ~~the~~ write ~~the~~ ~~the~~ striking, if not the only generous, unaffected, ~~the~~ indisputable example of ~~the~~ full and beneficial operation in one occupying a similar social status ~~the~~ ever met with. The fact was, be the inference flattering or otherwise, there did ~~the~~ exist ~~the~~ individual of any "celebrity" who ~~the~~ less of a tuft-hunter than Montgomery; ~~the~~ ~~the~~ who ~~the~~ really recognised and habitually acted upon a well-known dictum that "CHRISTIAN ~~the~~ the highest style of man." His intercourse, therefore, with ~~the~~ fellow men, whether personal or epistolary, so far at least ~~the~~ it was of his ~~the~~ seeking, was generally with individuals who ~~the~~ actively engaged either in doing good, or struggling to get good in some way.

These, however they may affect the estimate of the Letters, undoubtedly concern still ~~the~~ the ~~the~~ of *Conversations*, ~~the~~ frequently introduced into the ~~the~~ tive. Apart from considerations of the rank of the interlocutors, and the abstract value of the latter peculiarity in such a work as this, it ~~the~~ common ~~the~~ find biographers as well as critics speaking very pe-

remptorily — the former, the latter part, in obvious consonance with their own practice. Now, without affecting either dogmatism, I may surely affirm that the propriety of illustrating the written words of any individual by his own sentiments in his words, whether uttered in public or in private, in general depend entirely upon the character of the speaker, the fidelity and discretion of the reporter, as well as the object and judgment of the biographer. In almost every existing example, whatever its claims in other respects, matter of this imparts at least an air of fidelity and animation to a story; hence, it would only be one degree less absurd to be deterred from using it at all, by an apprehension of the trite of *Boswellism*, than it would be to introduce it for a better reason than because of its inimitable in the particular pointed to by that significant epithet. It was not because Montgomery's conversation was deemed of a superior order that he is so often introduced in that character in these pages; but mainly that, by such means, something like the individuality, if not the charm, of autobiography is thereby imparted to the narrative.

In finally closing what has been to them "a labour of love," and conscious, as they are of its many imperfections, the biographers cannot but recal with grateful, yet saddened feelings, their personal intercourse, the earliest fruition of which was a fervid hope now realized by the publication of this work: at the time, they were still more deeply affected by the conviction that they have enjoyed and lost in him whose genius and virtues in his memorial they have endea-

voured faithfully ■ portray a dear friend, "whose
 ■ they ne'er can see again." ■ as—to adopt
 his own remarkable words,

" 'Tis not the whole of life to live,
 Nor all of death to die,"—

they cannot but be solemnly reminded how brief ■
 space of time divides, with them, the ■ of the
 present world from those unseen realities of ■ eternal
 state, upon which the venerable "Christian Poet" ■
 already entered, and in the contemplation of which his
 piety, his genius, and his reputation ■ for many
 years undeviatingly engaged.

Sheffield, July 1. 1856.

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CHAP. XCVIII.

1847.

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JANUARY 4. Mr. Holland took me to Mount
 with Montgomery and Galea. *Holland*: "The
 ground is completely glazed with ice,—slaps, I heard
 a man slip it, while he nearly slipped into the
 channel." *Montgomery*: "That reminds me of
 a little incident: several years before the Queen
 wore the crown, she, as you will recollect,
 on a visit to Wentworth House, with her mother, the
 Duchess of Kent: the season was the beginning of

winter, and there had been rain, which was succeeded by a sharp frost. The illustrious visitors, with their family, were passing along one of the garden paths towards the conservatory, when the foot of the lively Victoria slipped, and she came! 'Have a care, Miss,' exclaimed old Cooper, botanical curator *, 'or you will be hurt again, for the ground is very slippery to-morrow.' 'Slip, slip,' responded the future sovereign of Great Britain, with something of the quick, inquisitive curiosity of her royal grandfather; 'what is slip?' The princess was, of course, duly initiated into the meaning of this expressive provincialism."

Jan. 7. Mr. Holland dined with Montgomery at Queen's Tower, the only other guest being Mr. Robinson, a miniature painter, who had just executed a likeness of the worthy owner of the mansion and his excellent wife, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts.† The afternoon was spent very pleasantly in examining the portraits, and talking about similar works of art. When Montgomery retired for a few minutes into Mr. Roberts's dressing room, the artist took occasion to remark how largely the so-called "organ of veneration"

* Joseph Cooper, who stood high in his master's estimation, had been a party to stranger incidents than that mentioned in the text, for he was one of that little band of missionaries that sailed from England for the South Seas in the ill-fated ship *Duff*!

† A miniature portrait of the poet was afterwards executed by Mr. Robinson, for the Misses Roberts, of Park Grange: it was a most faithful likeness; and the artist was not more gratified with the compliments which were paid to him on his success, than with his patience, affability, and general good nature. In allusion to a remark on the colour of the eyes, Mr. Robinson said they were in reality a bright hazel within a narrow circle of clear blue; and so lustrous, that in some lights the latter seemed to be the prevailing tint.

was developed in the poet's head, the indication of *firmness* being, he declared, no less deficient, while *ideality* was decidedly full,—the entire *sine* of the *being* being comparatively rather *than* otherwise: but then, he added, in estimating the value of the *peculiarity* in the formation of character, *temperament* *was* taken *into* account; *this*, in Montgomery, not only had been, *but* *was* *evidently* fervid, notwithstanding *his* advanced age. *The* passing phrenological dictum *was* recorded as agreeing, on the whole, with speculations *made* *on* the *same* *data* by other persons, who, with a *more* *thorough* *knowledge* in *the* theory of cerebral development, have casually *come* *into* *contact* with *the* *poet's* *bard*. In *the* evening the host and hostess escorted their guests to the adjacent mansion at *the* Grange, where they *were* *expected* by *Robert* Roberts, senior, *of* *the* family. *The* distance *was* only *an* intermediate field, but so dense *was* the darkness that Montgomery experimentally caught the meaning of Mr. Roberts's conundrum, "Why," said he, "*a* man going out in *a* pitch-dark night, *a* man walking with his *eyes* *shut* him?" "Because," was the reply, "he *cannot* see his *way* before him!" Ancient traditions being mentioned, Montgomery remarked that *he* *had* *found* the *incident* assigned *to* *the* *poet* and often widely *repeated* places; for example, it was very mortifying *to* *the* heroism to *be* *the* picturesque exploit of Tell shooting *the* apple on his child's head, *for* a patriot archer of another country. "This," *he* *proceeded*, "*is* *especially* *the* *case* with *the* fairy tales; yet some of them, *might* *be* thought, *could* *hardly* bear transplantation. I *have* *seen* *one* *last* *week*, *which* *belongs* *to* *the* indigenous *of* *the* neighbouring county of Derby. Every

person had heard of 'Peveril of the Peak,' in the same Scott's romance: there were intelligent persons in Sheffield who have seen the remains of his castle perched on the rock at the mouth of the celebrated cavern. Well; my story ran forth, that on an autumnal day, while the castle was in its pristine date, the pigs—or the 'brood-sow' with her young,—of King Peveril strayed to a distance, and being missing at night-fall, the royal swineherd, after searching the adjacent ravines, naturally enough thought they had wandered into the profound grotto at hand. Accordingly, he entered the yawning abyss, and proceeded so far, that, although failing to find the truant hogs, he discovered an opening into fairy-land! There, to his ineffable surprise, he beheld the 'little people' hard at work, reaping their mimic harvest; and thence, after having gazed his fill, he quietly retired, as he thought, unobserved. On going, however, to review the same the next day, the mass of rock had closed the aperture, which has since been discovered." *

Similar remarks were made on the encyclical letter just issued by his Holiness Pope Pius the Ninth, and on the Roman Catholic church about to be erected in Sheffield. "The clergy of Sheffield and the neighbourhood have just had a private meeting to consider what, whether anything, can be done to check the spread of popery; but they agreed that it would in-

* This is the story as preserved through the medium of memory; we find it occur in the first volume, p. 273., of Wright's "Essays on Subjects connected with the Literature, Popular Superstitions, and History of England in the Middle Ages." As our version is substantially correct, we have not thought it necessary to adopt the exact words of the printed authority in this particular instance.

expedient ■■■ any public demonstration ■ this moment." *Montgomery*: "They are right: they ■■■ plan of the ■ penknife cutler, who determined ■■ he would go ■ ■ day, in ■■ devise ■■ patterns; but ■■ faculty of invention proving wholly unproductive, he got up, resolved ■■ nothing; saying, he thought the old patterns were, after all, the best!" *Holland*: "Have you read the Rev. Henry Wilberforce's 'Discourse ■ Christian Unity,' ■■ I gave you?" *Montgomery*: "I have: the Protestant clergyman is ■ infallible, in ■■ opinion, ■ the Pope himself, and far less reasonable: he ■■■, indeed, without one tittle of evidence, or ■■ of argument, that his church is THE CHURCH; and then, with ■ much dogmatical gravity ■ the Roman pontiff could arrogate, he declares that beyond the pale of his communion there is no salvation: with equal bigotry does the vicar of ■■ Farleigh pronounce, ■■ only that 'all dissent is sin,' but he tells us, 'how very shocking it is, that many good sort of people think nothing of coming ■ church ■ the Sunday morning, and then going ■ meeting in the evening.'" *Mr. Roberts*: "I believe our honoured friend, the late Mr. Wilberforce, the preacher's father, would ■■ all have hesitated ■■ have 'sinned' ■ the best period of his life." *Montgomery*: "He often ■■ Mr. Jay's chapel, ■ Bath, ■ well as to other dissenting places of worship; and it ■ lamentable ■ ■■ ■■ not only shirking facts of this kind, but actually repudiating, by their ■■ extravagant sentiments and conduct, the evangelical catholicity of their revered father's character." The conversation ■■ of its interest ■ the ■■ of him who preserves this ■■ outline of it, when ■■ reflected that ■■ occurred ■ the very ■■

where the venerable [redacted] philanthropist [redacted] [redacted] once sat, an honoured visitor.

On the 15th of January, the annual festival of the Printers of Western New York was held in Rochester, Monroe Co., U. S., to celebrate the birthday of Benjamin Franklin. We received an American paper, containing a report of the proceedings, which filled nearly three broadside pages. The toasts, which mostly turned upon a punning application of [redacted] [redacted] a printing-office, were very numerous; and the speeches generally connected [redacted] original experiments in the conduction of lightning with the alleged discovery of the electric telegraph by [redacted] Morse. There were, also, numerous letters read from different sections of the United States, and from Europe; some of the former containing interesting notices of the introduction and progress of the typographic art in the Western world. Among other notices occurred those of sixteen females, "printers in their own count!" Oddly enough, a contribution was solicited from Montgomery, on the supposition that he still conducted a newspaper, though he had retired from the more than twenty years ago! He was unwilling, however, to pay a metrical tribute to the genius of Franklin, and feeling, no doubt, some lingering of old sympathy with the fellowship of the craft, the [redacted] bard addressed, as already stated, the letter in the following lines entitled "Franklin, the Printer, Philosopher, and Patriot*," in which the Rochester committee, a member of which, in a [redacted] prefixed his name in the newspaper [redacted] us, [redacted] testimony in [redacted] "Wanderer of Switzerland," [redacted] "West Indies," &c., [redacted] he [redacted] [redacted] been engaged in reprinting in America. "The spirit of liberty

infused through these productions found a warm home in his bosom; and a feeling enkindled of admiration for the man, as less than for the poet, which the lapse of time has served but to enhance; and the days of prosperity and adversity, the hours of leisure and of joyous exultation, some lines of this Christian poet have been adapted to tranquillise his spirits, as the agitated billows."

Jan. 11. 1841. [redacted] dined with Montgomery at the house of Mr. Ridge, at Endcliffe, in company with Mr. Gedge of Bury St. Edmunds, the proprietor of the "Bury Post" newspaper; the visit of the last-named gentleman being almost wholly attributable to the desire he had for many years cherished of enjoying an interview with the Sheffield poet. The day, as it happened, was that appointed for the opening of Parliament,—an unforeseen conjuncture which compelled the host, who was proprietor and publisher of the "Sheffield Mercury," to leave his guests at an early hour, and to make an experiment at that time of equal novelty and interest, namely, the transmission of a copy, from London, of the Queen's speech, by means of the electric telegraph wires, which had only the day before been extended to [redacted]. No very elaborate apology was necessary, between parties having so strong a sympathy with newspaper management, for at least some anxiety and excitement under these circumstances. It may well be imagined, too, that the conversation of the evening turned mainly on the various changes which public journalism had undergone in this country during the preceding fifty years; the [redacted] editor, [redacted] listening to the narrative given by Montgomery of his own political prosecutions, remarking on the improved [redacted] opinion and practice relative to the law of libel. In the course of conversation, [redacted] naturally

engrossing topic of **the** day, viz., **the** new and ticklish experiment of telegraphing **—** long an article **—** a royal speech *, **the** "three friends" discussed **the** then **the** restoration, in the best sense of **the** term, **the** the ancient conventual church of St. Mary **—** Bury, the **the** memorials of Robert Bloomfield, whose "Farmer's Boy," if **the** mistake not, was **the** printed by the father of Mr. Gedge; the eccentricities **the** the late Capel Lofft, Esq., of Troston Hall, whom Montgomery praised for **the** generous patronage of the poetical shoemaker; the Rev. Richard Cobbold's "History of Margaret Catchpole," whose romantic **the** of horse-stealing, subsequent trial, transportation, and acquisition of **the** considerable property, and the recent visit of her **the** from New South Wales, **the** endeavour **the** purchase **the** estate near the **the** of his mother's recorded exploits, in Suffolk, were, Mr. Gedge said, facts fully corroborated by the testimony of local knowledge; though much of the entertaining **the** of the published **the** narrative, **the** **the** minute details, was, of course, entirely imaginary. The elegant volume of "Natural Illustrations of the British Grasses," already mentioned in connection with Montgomery's lines on "The Grasshopper," being named, **the** Gedge said he had, along with Mr. Ridge, recently **the** and admired **the** copy of **the** in a bookseller's shop at Manchester, where, however, its interest **the** eclipsed by another botanical work which, **the** **the** from the description of it in **the** note, **the** of a far **the** extraordinary character.†

* How rapidly, in our day, do the most exquisite scientific inventions pass from marvellous to familiar in their practical application! Who wonders at any performance of the electric telegraph now?

† "Early in the present century, a **the** professor, named John S. de Kerner, who was also an Aulic councillor and fellow of many societies **the** Germany, and who **the** **the** Stuttgart, **the**

With the advent of an instance of human perseverance and ingenuity Montgomery much interested. The Holland happening have with him a copy of the poet's lines — Franklin, read them — the party, — being, in their general drift, curiously coincident with the occasion of Mr. Ridge's absence — the scientific control of electrical agency — and by a printer, — The American experimenter, long since, stated his lightning conductor, to show that

"Philosophy triumphed there;"

while at the time of reading the lines, the achieve-

ceived the of publishing a great botanical work on a plan. Of this work, he proposed perfect only twelve copies; producing the whole, save a brief letter-press description of the plants, by his own hands. In this great work he spent many years, and life was not given him to complete it; in fact, he only per- four copies, and proceeding with others, when death terminated his voluntarily-imposed labours. Every plant represented in the work is drawn the natural size, and carefully coloured from a fresh and blooming specimen. Of the four copies of the work, the destination of one is not known; two are in public libraries on the Continent (we think at Stuttgart and Vienna), and the third is at present in the possession of Messrs Simms and Dinham, booksellers, Manchester, being the property of a gentleman in London. Its title is "*Hortus semper Virens* (the ever-living Garden); *Icones Plantarum selectiorum, quotquot vivorum exemplorum licuit.*" The work is elephant folio; it is half-bound in morocco, it twelve ponderous volumes, containing upwards of beautifully-delineated exquisitely-coloured drawings of plants, flowering or fruiting, all the natural size; altogether forms the largest and most valuable botanical works we have ever seen. The price is stated to be 400 guineas; and, looking at the extreme rarity of the work, and at the almost utter impossibility of one will ever again be constructed, in the same elaborate manner, by a man who to great botanical knowledge joins the powers of high order, the price is not so large as it seems at first sight."

"victory of science won" by the English professor, Wheatstone, through the same media, was being effected by the mysterious agency of the electric current between London and Sheffield. In commemorating this triumph, the little party cordially joined; and least warmly Montgomery, when Mr. Ridge's appearance at the tea-table, printed copies of the Queen's Speech, which had been delivered in London only a few hours previously! In walking home to the Mount, Montgomery met Mr. Holland, "I met Mr. Gedge personally; and I had some pleasing associations with the same, as I well remember addressing book-parcels to his father, and of receiving his popular 'Pocket Books,' from Harrison's shop in Paternoster Row, between fifty and sixty years since." *Holland*: "Mr. Ridge will, I am sure, exceedingly regret having been, for some hours, so unexpectedly called away from his guests." *Montgomery*: "He need not feel any regret; for my part, I scarcely ever in my life enjoyed anything more, at the moment, than the enthusiastic ardour with which, on setting out, he appeared to look at the risks of the despatch, in the confidence of success — so different from what I should have done! and then the exultation which, on his return, he indulged in the realisation of his hopes. He was proud of the triumph, and he enjoyed as he had deserved it. He will, probably, never have another opportunity of displaying the same amount of energy on an equally interesting occasion." *Holland*: "You will probably remember that, in paying a poetical tribute to the memory of Franklin, you were discharging an obligation under which he laid the Moravians seventy years ago." *Montgomery*: "Certainly not; I do not recollect any instance in which he and the Brethren ever came into

contact." *FRANKLIN* : "The case was this : in June, 1778, when *FRANKLIN* was residing at Passy, in France, as minister of the United States, James Hutton, the well-known Moravian, applied to him for a passport, or letter of safe conduct*, so far as the risk of falling in with American vessels was concerned, for the missionary ship about to proceed on her annual voyage to Labrador. The document was readily granted, and by coincidence bore the celebrated namesake of yours." *Montgomery* : "Whom do you mean?" *FRANKLIN* : "*FRANKLIN* Montgomery, who was killed during the American war, and a vessel was named for whom *FRANKLIN* had sailed from Paris; but which, not having reached its destination, he hoped Hutton would have restored, if it had fallen into the hands of English cruisers. The sculpture ultimately reached New York†, and the ship sailed to the Hudson's Bay unmolested. I think I have understood that you did not know Hutton personally?" *Montgomery* : "I never knew him; but I have often heard our Brethren describe him as an exceedingly venerable-looking man, with a long white beard. George the Third was fond of him; and, on one occasion, the King, who liked a joke, said, in his dry way, 'Mr. Hutton, I am sure that you Moravians do not select your own wives, but leave it to your ministers to choose for you—is it so?' 'Yes, please your Majesty; marriages amongst our Brethren are contracted, as your Majesty will perceive, after the fashion of royalty.'"

* *Life and Works of Franklin*, by J. Sparks, vol. vi. p. 122., where this passport is printed at length, along with another, also granted by Franklin, for the protection of Captain Cook, in 1779, when his vessel was expected to return, after his last and fatal voyage round the world.

† Montgomery's monument is erected in front of St. Paul's Church, New York.

THE year 1811 Montgomery had, in compliance with the solicitation of the Committee of the Red Hill Wesleyan Sunday-school, written a hymn to be sung by the scholars on each anniversary of the institution, some of the number of his compositions of this class having thus originated. Anticipating the recurrence of that anniversary, the secretary of the school applied somewhat early to the poet for his usual offering; and it happened that the effusion was transmitted almost at the very hour that an awkward explanation was given to the poet, announcing such a change in the ordinary arrangements as precluded the possibility of any original composition being singing. This was the occasion of the following letter:—

James Montgomery to George Chaloner.

"The Mount, 20th Dec. 30. 1811.

"DEAR SIR,

"On my return from the Infirmary yesterday noon, I sent a hymn at your shop enclosing a hymn for Red Hill School. When I reached home, I found on my return your communicating that your plan for the anniversary had changed, and that there would be no occasion to use it. I am sorry this should have given you some uneasiness; it has given me none; and I beg that you may be no more troubled about it. I only add on this subject, that the hymn is suitable for your Wesleyan Union Festival, you will please to keep it for that purpose; and not, I shall be obliged to you to return to me the manuscript, whether suffering to be printed, or any copy taken of it. I have long ago attempted verse-making for Sunday-school only; having chosen for such occasions the best hymns which might otherwise be employed in great congregations, for worship. My compositions are meagrely thought of, and have been thrown away entirely, on account of the difficulty of finding distinct and appropriate hymns

of any kind is so embarrassing that, in compositions for special times and seasons, I have, several years past, kept in view *general application* of bespoken pieces, or I altogether the topics lying in a certain compass. My mind can get in illustration, soon by repetition less spirit, and in forced or feeble language. I have now on more than 300 hymns of my own making, many of which have had extensive circulation through which have been issued both by clergymen and ministers of different denominations, or without my consent; and in these such unwarrantable have been (in way honest take their wives, 'for for worse') words, lines, and sentiments, that, in self-defence, I bound, and conscientiously, too, revise and prepare for authentic publication, in such form I am willing in life, and after death, to be answerable for in doctrine diction to my fellow-sinners; though, before my God, like Job, I 'answer not, but supplication my Judge.' In ingenuous confession, I leave disposal of the unwanted hymn your discretion, and

"Truly your friend and servant,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"Mr. George Chalmers, Church Street."

At the beginning of this year appeared "The Homes and Haunts of the English Poets," by William Howitt. The work contained, of course, a notice of Montgomery, which he evidently read with interest, as well as contemporary notices of subject in the reviews. Alluding to the clever articles on book in "Athenaeum" and "Fraser's Magazine," the poet Mr. Holland "I suppose you have enjoyed the criticisms more than the book: I know William is a particular favourite of yours, I introduce to you when he is in the field." Holland: "I have certainly enjoyed both the

book and the reviews of it: what I dislike in the quondam [] his bitter polemical propensities; his abuse, or, at all events, irreverent application of Scripture expressions; and, [] all, the [] a [] of bland, sentimental theism in [] place of Christianity,—charges [] tially made against him, indeed, in ‘*Fraser*.’” Montgomery admitted the justice of the allegations.*

Montgomery: “I have read with equal surprise and regret the bitter diatribe against publishers, [] Howitt has introduced into [] notice of [] Hogg: I [] you [] the pages in [] so far as my own knowledge and experience [] they [] a conclusion directly the [] of [] which Mr. Howitt has arrived. My [] extensive dealings in this way have been with Longmans, who have always treated me, [] only justly, but I [] bound [] say, liberally. I have received from them several hundred guineas [] my share of the profits on the ‘*Wanderer of Switzerland*,’ the manuscript of which I would, [] time, gladly have sold [] them, [] any other publishing firm, for 50*l*. It is true, [] since then, [] name and writings have been considered [] be worth something in [] market of literature, and I have

* * Montgomery must, at the same time, have been gratified with the reviewer’s kind personal allusion to himself:—

“Nearly eighteen years have gone, since we first passed a morning in the company of this most amiable and pleasing of all modern poets; yet [] remember the interview as if it had been yesterday. Few poetical faces so clearly indicate the imaginative tempera- [] The snow had already begun to fall upon his head, which now carries the burden of seventy-five winters; [] there is sun- [] the top of []—may it continue to [] There is no modern poet of whom it is more certain that something will [] after him: this immortality he shares with Campbell and Rogers.” — *Fraser’s Mag.* vol. xxxv. p. 226.

consequently had tempting offers from various quarters, but I have generally declined them on the ground that I was quite satisfied with my present connection." *Montgomery*: "I have seen the notices in which you refer, and I was even more struck with the friendly character of the remedy, than with the justice of the allegation. Mr. Howitt wonders that authors should be combined long, like the members of other professions, for the maintenance of their common interests, and the elevation of their character as a class. He does not say, and I cannot guess, what 'other professions' he specially alludes; but I suppose any combination of authors in Great Britain would work pretty much as trades' unions commonly work. Poor cutlers in Sheffield—mischievously the better class of workmen, when they produce any thing at all, and altogether ineffectually for the benefit of the inferior classes, when the latter want protection. Among the writers of books, and among the makers of knives, those who are successful are too independent to combine: while in each case—poor cutlers, and poor authors alike—it may be feared that those who command a market on their individual merits, would not do it by co-operation. I have yet to learn that the spirit of business—whatever the rules of the trade may be—is essentially different in the merchandise of literature from that of other kinds of property. A bookseller will buy from or publish on the usual terms with an author, any book he knows or believes to be good; and I have imagined that any comprehensive plan of union among writers of prose or verse can long consist with printing that which will not sell?" *Montgomery*: "I quite agree with you, that, however unsatisfactory the alleged dealings of some authors with their publishers may have been, such cases would, in any in-

stances, have been ~~_____~~ had ~~_____~~ complainants ~~_____~~ in their own hands, or ~~_____~~ in the hands of their colleagues: indeed, the ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ and what has ~~_____~~ termed the *genius of trade* ~~_____~~ so proverbially ~~_____~~ lous, ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ identify ~~_____~~ their mutual in-
~~_____~~ in any ~~_____~~ directorship. Poets, it ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ true, often enough ~~_____~~ poor; but ~~_____~~ publishers ~~_____~~ commonly retire from business rich! The extremely dissimilar ~~_____~~ of Scott ~~_____~~ Hogg, ~~_____~~ specifically stated illustrations of Mr. Howitt's theory, appear ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ tell directly against it: the former, who earned ~~_____~~ money ~~_____~~ an author than perhaps any other on record, dabbled in publishing, and was ruined: the latter forsok his old and friendly patron, Blackwood, who ~~_____~~ was only willing to reprint what he believed would sell, for a London firm which, after exciting great expectations in the poet's mind, issued one volume of ~~_____~~ proposed ~~_____~~ edition of his works, and then—became bankrupt! What Mr. Howitt says about the powers of ~~_____~~ author in arraigning and correcting offenders of whatever grade in society, is equally striking and ~~_____~~ the purpose. Not ~~_____~~ I think, his insinuation that any such author receives the ~~_____~~ of every well-fed seller of ~~_____~~ book with patience, —much less that the ~~_____~~ pens which are often so powerful when wielded under the generalship of modern publishers, would be equally successful if turned against the latter as the '~~_____~~ enemy.'" *Holland*: "I was somewhat surprised ~~_____~~ find ~~_____~~ Howitt citing, in refer-
~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ Moore's residence ~~_____~~ Mayfield Cottage, ~~_____~~ Ashbourne, a passage from ~~_____~~ contemporary writer, comprising the ~~_____~~ of several individuals who have given ~~_____~~ of celebrity ~~_____~~ the *genius loci*, without any ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ either Isaac ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ Charles Cotton, with ~~_____~~ of whom the scenery of Dovedale has so long been in various ways associated." *Montgomery*: "And yet

he is quite alive to coincidences—as I am a work he ought to be. I was amused with the discovery that the house in which Moore was born is now a whisky shop; that Burns's native cottage is a public-house; Shelley's house at Great Marlow, a beer-shop; the spot where Scott was born occupied with a building used for a similar purpose; and even Coleridge's residence at Nether Stowey, the very house in which the poet composed that sweet 'Ode to the Nightingale,' is now an ordinary beer-house. Had my visit to Sheffield been only a few months later, my own forty years' residence would doubtless have been added to this list; for in 1844 Gales and I walked up the Hartshead the other day, talking of '*auld lang syne*,' and not forgetful of the very uncomplimentary character which Mr. Howitt had given to that locality, what was our consternation to perceive that our old house was actually converted into a 'Tom-and-Jerry shop! But what do you think of Mr. Howitt's discovery that Wordsworth's system, which has long puzzled the reviewers, is a system of poetical Quakerism? You know something about the 'haunts' of George Fox in this neighbourhood; and about his Journal, which I have seen; but which I believe shows him to have been, with all his extravagance and enthusiasm, an indefatigable, as well as a sincere, labourer and sufferer in what he considered to be the cause of evangelical truth. Now my surprise and regret has always been, in reference to the system of the late justly celebrated Wordsworth's poems, that they should be so entirely devoid of all allusion to spiritual things, the latter are abundant in the Scriptures and in the experience of real Christians." *Holland*: "That is exactly what struck me on reading your very ingenious argument on Mr. Howitt; and who, when he says that the 'Excursion' is a very Bible of Quakerism, makes an assertion the

validity which I am utterly comprehend: I think it equally have puzzled W. Penn in the day, William Allen in *ours*: by way, the latter individual appears to have been deservedly teemed beyond communion." *Montgomery*: "I never William Allen but once, then under circumstances somewhat painful to myself. When I in London in May, 1837, I induced to attend the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Society at Exeter Hall: I was pressed to speak, and Lord John Russell in the chair; the audience generally, including, I believe, a bishop or two, were, as far as I know, satisfied with what I said. Not however, good William Allen, who, in his speech, dwelt to some length on what he deemed a reprehensible peculiarity in my address. I and listened to him, not very comfortably you may be sure; but I was enabled to repress the temptation to rise and defend myself against the injustice which he, unintentionally enough, was inflicting upon me." *Holland*: "What was the topic upon which there could be so much misunderstanding between you and the worthy Quaker?" *Montgomery*: "I believe I asserted that the three individuals whose teachings had, beyond comparison, produced the widest and most permanent effects upon mankind, Moses, Mahomet, and Jesus Christ. Of course, in stating, and illustrating the fact, —for such surely it is,—I cannot but believe that I expressed myself so blunderingly as to justify Mr. Allen, or any one else, in supposing that I either intended to admitted any other parity than simply that which I have named. His friends, the Fosters, who were present, and were grieved by the occurrence, afterwards called on me, and apologised: I answered their letter by a clear explanation of my own meaning."

Holland: "Allen mentions ■■■ meeting, but ■■■ ■■■ in his Journal: he, however, appears ■■■ have ■■■ particularly sensitive ■■■ the character of Mahomet, ■■■ consequence of his dissatisfaction with ■■■ ■■■ impostor which had shortly before been printed in one of the Useful Knowledge Society's publications."*

In ■■■ month of April, ■■■ year, the whole kingdom ■■■ agitated with discussions relative ■■■ the effects likely ■■■ produced by the operation of certain plans for the general instruction of the poor, propounded in ■■■ series of minutes issued by the Committee of the Council ■■■ Education, under the sanction of Lord Lansdowne, the president. The Congregational Dissenters, under the guidance of Mr. Edward Baines, of Leeds, were almost unanimous, not only in repudiating the proposed scheme, but in denouncing all government intervention or aid under any circumstances. For ■■■ time Montgomery appeared to entertain similar views, ■■■ harmonising with the objections to government interference which he had on previous occasions urged in ■■■ newspaper. The more, however, he examined the present proposal, the more was he convinced of ■■■ impartiality and advantages in ■■■ national point of view; and having thus made up his mind, he joined his friend Samuel Bailey, Esq., in signing the petition from Shof- ■■■ in favour of the government scheme of education, in opposition ■■■ ■■■ which had been adopted ■■■ ■■■ public meeting *against* the measure, and ■■■ which ■■■ ■■■ urgently solicited ■■■ affix ■■■ name.

* Life of Allen. Montgomery has embodied the sentiment in a preface to the Memoir of the Rev. T. R. Taylor, who died at ■■■ in ■■■

Mr. Holland, having [redacted] Montgomery [redacted] favour him, [redacted] leisure, with [redacted] transcript of [redacted] hymn or other [redacted] for a lady who was [redacted] for [redacted] specimen [redacted] his handwriting, received the following:—

* The Mount, April 14. 1847.

"My [redacted] Friend,

"The enclosed verses were written [redacted] years [redacted] They have [redacted] been printed, and I have only given [redacted] copies away [redacted] the interval. They will probably [redacted] your [redacted] [redacted] send to the Durham lady. I am truly [redacted] haste, [redacted] truly [redacted] earnest,

"Your [redacted] [redacted] servant,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"Eternity! Eternity!

That boundless, soundless, tideless [redacted]

Of mysteries [redacted] mystery, —

What is Eternity to me?" &c.*

The lady—herself given to versifying—made [redacted] grateful and graceful acknowledgment to the poet, in fourteen neat stanzas. "There is in them," said Montgomery, "an [redacted] of frankness, earnestness, and candour which [redacted] but a woman could have imparted." It turned out that the bard—unconsciously [redacted] his part—had once crossed the path of our fair friend:—

"'T was where the German [redacted] [redacted]

On Redem's smooth, expansive shore,

We met—perhaps, to meet no [redacted]

By chance together brought:

No [redacted] that sight impressed thine eye,

Than if a bud had fluttered by, —

[redacted] if a cloud [redacted] crossed the sky,

[redacted] drew a deeper thought.

" I— who each and every
Of thy sweet lyre my own,
Till almost seemed the minstrel known, —
Knew well I saw him then!
and rejoiced! — for purer fame
Of holier theme—a higher aim,
deeply felt that none could claim
Among the sons of men!

" How short, in retrospect, appear
The long, long lapse of twenty years,
With all their smiles, and all their tears —
The time since passed away!
And on Redcar's far-spread shore,
Though all its windings I explore,
I ne'er might meet the poet more,
Nor see him, musing, stray.

" And there were sorrow in the thought,
But that I still, whene'er 't was sought,
Upon the page his hand hath wrought,
His better part can find:
There, in the fervour of his love,
To man below — his God above,
The eagle blended with the dove —
I meet his heart and mind!

" There is an ocean both sail —
O grant us, Heaven! a favouring gale,
When human skill and courage fail,
To pass that 'tideless sea.'
And grant us — that brief o'er —
To on celestial shore
Where friendly spirits part
In 'Eternity.'"

* can be no impropriety in mentioning that these stanzas were written by my friend, Mrs Colling, Hurworth, near Darlington, a lady who, with Foster, versified, in published, with a Archdeacon Wrangham, "A Version of the Psalms of David." — J. H.

CHAP. XCIX.

1847.

"GOODY TWO SHOES."—MR. EVERETT'S TRIP TO THE NORTH—
 DEATH OF MR. BURNES &c.—THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.—CON-
 VENTION.—COLLIER'S "BIOGRAPHIA."—CALVINOLOGY.—FAIRY
 READER.—WOLF.—INFILTRATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
 IN THE NORTH.—THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.—WORDSWORTH'S
 "THE WICKER CHURCH."

Prior, in his "Life of Goldsmith," says (vol. ii. p. 100.), that the late William Godwin had suggested to him the inquiry, whether the poet "may not have written for Newbery, in its present form, the nursery tale of 'Goody Two Shoes?'" Montgomery, whose curiosity was excited by the foregoing passage and context, was anxious to re-peruse, in order to judge of its style, a child's book which he so intensely delighted him as soon as he was able to read all; but it had become such a rarity in the shops that it was long before he could procure a copy. When he had read it, he said he did not believe that it was written by Goldsmith; though he agreed with the biographer, that could the authorship of the tale be proved, so far from lowering, it would add to the versatility and ingenuity of his pen." Mr. Holland he concurred in that opinion; but had always understood that the tale was written by one of the Brothers Jones, who were both employed by Newbery, of St. Paul's Churchyard: such, at least, was the fact as asserted in a letter

written by the daughter, still living, of whom I inquired in an inquiry on the subject.*

May 13. Mr. Everett called upon Montgomery, and was glad to learn that a quarto volume of old poetry which I had given him on a previous visit, was at least valuable for its rarity, being priced in Thorpe's catalogue at £10s. Several of the pieces were of a pious character; and a collation of two or three of them, with others printed in "Royal and Noble authors †," showed the book with the "Otia Sacra" of Mildmay Fane, Esq. of Westmoreland, of whom Walpole gives a striking portrait and a very brief notice. Mr. Everett also gave him a small volume of old English poetry,

* The lady says, "I never heard it denied before, that my father was at least one of the originators of the children's books. I will give you his account of the affair:—'In those days every young man considered it necessary to the character of a gentleman to be well snuff, and Newbery, the well-known publisher at the corner of St. Paul's Churchyard, my brother, and myself (Griffith and Giles Jones), used to go on an evening to learn that accomplishment. On one of these occasions, I suggested to Newbery that, although he had literary talents in plenty for the amusement of nothing had been ever written for the amusement or edification of children, and proposed that we should write a children's book: this idea was approved of, and that now gave birth to "Goody Two Shoes." "It seems," adds the writer, "that a rough sketch was made by each gentleman present, when, if I recollect right, my father's, meeting with the greatest share of approbation, was soon set up and published by Newbery. Afterwards, when he was eating some spice-nuts, that, as he returned to his gingerbread, he wrote his book in his own name, which he did, and 'Giles Gingerbread' was published. 'Tommy Trip,' &c., &c., followed. I remember 'Goody Two Shoes' being given to me in a smart gilt cover, and was told that my papa had written it. Poor as I am, I would give a good deal for it now."

† iii. p. Paris edit.

entitled "Sacrifice;"* some portions of which he read at once, with the remark, "How much I thought one sometimes fell in the kind of crabbed versification: it belongs to the period when even poets were expected to give their readers *strong meat*—not to treat them merely with stimulating *cordials*." He mentioned that he had composed a hymn for the jubilee of the Church Missionary Society at the request of Mr. Bickersteth, whom he had known since his return from India: "I am not a great poet in the ordinary meaning of the term, but he is something better,—a Christian, with a true spirit, unwearied zeal, sound judgment, and admirable business habits. I like Bickersteth."

June 5. *Holland*: You will have heard of the sudden death of a great and good man in Scotland, since I last saw you? *Montgomery*: "Of course you know Dr. Chalmers; he was a true friend to the Moravians, and used to quote the poetry of Burns of our bishops.† I first heard of his death in the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance last night, where I did not see you. I

* *Frances Metel de Boie-Robert*, of the French Academy, published "*Les Sacrifices des Muses*."

† Gambold, who was a man of the most enlarged charity, as well as of deep piety. The following fine passage from one of his compositions, is said to have been more frequently repeated by Dr. Chalmers than any other in his "*Recollections of English Poetry*;" it embodies, indeed, the very germ of the "*Evangelical Alliance*," to which it has been applied:—

"I'm apt to think the man
That could surround the sun of things, and spy
The heart of God and secrets of his empire,
Would speak but love. With him the bright result
Would change the hue of intermediate scenes,
And make one thing of all theology."

(*Montgomery's Memoirs of Chalmers*, vol. iv. p. 385.)

you, Mr. George Ridge* do of Alliance." *Holland*: "I confess I see no any particular good that will be effected; indeed, I do not find that its members generally have very clearly defined the object which they have in view. Associations of Christians of different views for sending the gospel to the heathen, the London Missionary Society; or for circulating the Holy Scriptures, the Bible Society, present, in each case, at least an intelligible and well-defined principle of Catholic co-operation, which I think the Alliance does not exhibit." *Montgomery*: "I have always been in favor of the Alliance. But when applied by Mr. Larom, the Baptist minister, I told him that although I could not see what great object was likely to be gained, and I, of course, could not take any active part in the proceedings, yet I was not in favor of the avowed design of the friends of the Alliance, the promotion of union among evangelical Christians, I should most willingly become a member. I would not place a straw in the way of good people of different religious denominations meeting together to learn to love one another better." *Holland*: "And I would be as anxious to remove even a straw which good people are likely to stumble in their way toward the attainment of such an object. My dislike to the Alliance is, I think, in its repulsive elements, more likely far to outweigh its attractive ones,—that its common hostility to something *without*, transcends its particular affection for everything *within* its circle. In one word, that its belligerent tendencies are more likely to be active than its pacific professions are to become influential. Its prescribed objects of attack, as Infidelity, Popery, and Deism, are, Infidelity, Popery, and Deism de-

* Publisher of the "Sheffield Mercury" newspaper.

segregation, — all legitimately regarded as inimical to evangelical Christianity and the welfare of the community. But it remains to be seen how far, whether all, allied powers can move simultaneously to attack these and other enemies of their common faith, without endangering one another by designed or accidental cross-shots, by members in or out of the ranks, puseyism, prelacy, &c.; or nothing of slavery, state-churchism, and various political questions. Entertaining these views, right or wrong in themselves, I do not feel at liberty to attend the meeting; because I neither wished to express my opinion nor any one who might have spoken for me, to seem to trim by evading all such expressions. Otherwise, I confess, I should have heard and of the speakers, good Thomas Mortimer in particular." * *Montgomery*: "I was I was trimmer on that occasion, nor have I been one;

A somewhat curious incident occurred to the reverend gentleman during his visit to Sheffield. Instead of going to a friend's house as requested, he preferred taking up his quarters at the principal inn of the town. Having retired to rest, he was awoke about two o'clock in the morning with the most outrageous noises of a drunken party in the room below. As the sounds increased so as utterly to prevent him from sleeping, he at length arose, partly dressed himself, and sallying forth with his candlestick in one hand, and a lot of tracts in the other, made his appearance among the Bacchanalians. At first they were disposed to be something more than rude to his speech; but on that venerable-looking personage telling them that he was a clergyman, without not manifesting anything like fear, the disturbers first began, through shame of their own conduct, to listen to what the preacher said about the ill conduct of the house; and afterwards allowed him to deliver to them a religious exhortation, such as they had evidently been little accustomed to. Mr. Mortimer mentioned the adventure with much solemnity in his sermon at the parish church in Sheffield on the Sunday following.

indeed, nobody ever know conceive how many and what painful struggles I have had, in the course of my life, ascertain and my duty conscientiously in exigency." "Assuredly, in your allegiance Saviour, in your attachment gelical truth, in your loyalty patriotism, in duty and kindness your fellow men, and in obligations of a personal conscientiousness, *trimming* could never justly imputed to you. But—alas, for charity!—how often each religious party in turn, after gladly availing themselves of your aid, regarded you as a *trimmer* because you may have happened, with equal good will and good reason, to have lent similar aid others! To turn quite a different subject,—am I right or wrong in holding, that the same spiritual delicacy which has almost throughout life harassed and governed your decisions among doubtful claimants for the aid of your tongue and pen, has also affected the character of your poetry? I mean more particularly this,—is it not probable that, had you become a decidedly non-religious instead of a religious man forty years ago, your poems would probably have exhibited higher flights of *genius*? To 'snatch a grace beyond the reach of art,' you have, of course, as a poet, hesitated; but have you not many a time and oft forborne, as a Christian, to touch a tempting theme, or clutch a striking phrase, because they lay out of the sphere of strict religious propriety?" *Montgomery*: "You are quite right. Until about the year 1811 I was merely learning the exercising the strength of my poetical legs, often violently and improperly enough, but not cessfully in one sense; respect, you many others have happily no mine to answer for. It I believe, in the stanzas, entitled the 'Lyre,' that I perceived and exercised my true vocation as

poet. What I might have been if God then happily recalled the faith and of my fathers, I know not. What you about the effect of religious principle controlling scope of the imagination is also quite in general. You well know what tent I have publicly controverted Dr. Johnson's memorable slander against the union of religion and poetry;* but neither you any else know how often, in my poetical operations, I have sacrificed brilliant forms of expression, which, whatever admiration they might have with my readers, incompatible with Christian verity. As it is, I sometimes take up of my own volumes, and comparing, in vain invidious spirit I am sure, what I have written with the productions of my contemporaries, I cannot but think that if any of the poetry of the present day shall be read by the next generation, my will not deserve to be altogether rejected on its merits."

Montgomery: "By the way, I have been gratified, while just reading the new edition of Coleridge's 'Biographia Literaria,' to find my opinion coinciding with his two interesting points. In my unpublished Lectures I have argued that, so far from its being plain that Shakspeare unconscious of his high poetical destiny, persons have inferred from the absence of all allusion to personal history in his plays, he had no less strong, clear, and confident anticipation of future than Milton himself: in fact, that the and sweetness of temper which, as Coleridge says, almost proverbial of the poet in age, not arise from anything ignorance of own comparative greatness. conclusion clearly apparent from his sonnets, especially that strik-

* Introductory Essay to the "Christian Poet."

ing one* in which he not only indicates his right to receive, but his power to bestow, poetical immortality :—

“ ‘Your monument shall be my gentle verse,
Which eyes not yet created shall o’er-read ;
And tongues be, your being shall rehearse,
When all the breathers of this world are dead :
You live, — such virtue my pen,
Breath most breathes, e’en in the of men.’ ”

Montgomery quoted the whole passage with considerable feeling and emphasis : adding, “ What a striking line is this ! who, besides Shakspeare, has ever expressed the idea with similar effect—

“ *When all the breathers of this world are dead !* ”

The other coincidence of opinion between Coleridge and myself to which I alluded, is with respect to Pope’s translation of Homer’s celebrated, and often-quoted, description of moonlight, in which the Queen of Night is described as shining full-orbed, and in a cloudless sky, while—

“ ‘ Around her throne, the vivid planets roll,
And unnumbered gild the glowing pole.’ ”

The translation is tolerably faithful to the original, as far as the idea of the pre-eminent brightness of the moon around the full moon is concerned : yet, who does not perceive, as soon as told, that the description, however radiant, is incorrect ? An observant ploughboy must generally be that, in this at least, the planets and are wonderfully less bright in every part of the heavens, when the full moon

* Sonnet LXXXI.

■■■ out. Coleridge's editor, in ■■■ of his notes, ■■■
■■■ to Warton ■ well-known ■■■ of Mil-
ton's —

" "And over them triumphant Death his dart
Shook, ■■ delay'd to strike." ■

Some remark being made about the singular passage in which Coleridge defines ■ leading peculiarity ■ Unitarianism and Calvinism, ■ the ■■ systems appeared ■ him†, Montgomery said, the ■■ persons he ■■ heard mentioned ■ preachers of what ■■ *high Calvinist* doctrines ■■ the celebrated William Huntingdon, S. S., or "Sinner Saved," and Timothy Priestley, brother of the philosopher.‡ Macgowan, the author of "Dialogues of Devils," being also named, the *Antinomianism* usually attributed to these really clever but eccentric individuals became the subject of conversation, in the course of which Montgomery remarked, that whatever might be the real or assumed tendency of the doctrines delivered from the pulpit or from the press by these and other solidian divines, he had ■■ met with more than ■■ ■■ who, in conversation, attempted gravely to defend the broad ■■ tinomian hypothesis in ■■ its alleged consequences: who this ■■ he did ■■ say. The recorded death-bed conversation of Cromwell with his minister, ■■ the dogma "once in grace always in grace," ■■ indeed ■

* Biog. Lit., vol. i. p. 24., where the lines which occur in Par. Lost, ■ xi. are referred to Warton's "Ode to Sleep."

† "The modern English ■■■■ contemplate the Deity as mere mercy, or rather good-nature, without reference to his justice or holiness; and to this idol—the deification of a human passion—is their whole system confined. The Calvinists do the same with the omnipotence of God, with as little reference to his wisdom and his love."—S. T. C.

‡ *Asid*, Vol. I. p. 119.

had any [redacted] fact, had, Montgomery thought, [redacted] been originally misrepresented, [redacted] subsequently misunderstood: in [redacted] opinion, the dying Protector—supposing him [redacted] have [redacted] anything like what is imputed [redacted] him—did not refer to his past religious experience [redacted] a sufficient guarantee of present safety, but [redacted] a ground on which to [redacted] his expectation of the renewal of a blessing [redacted] he knew to be possible. *Holland:* "As you [redacted] along Barker Pool, turn [redacted] window [redacted] your left hand, and you will [redacted] a curiosity,—a 'male mandrake,' as the exhibitor [redacted] a large tripartite root which appears to be that of *atropa mandragora*, alluded to in more than [redacted] instance by Shakespeare, who says:—

" ' And shrieks like mandrakes torn [redacted] of the earth,
That living mortals hearing them, run mad.' "

Montgomery: "No; I [redacted] go to look at it: I dare [redacted] it is only the bryony root*, which [redacted] used to call mandrake at Fulneck School; but whatever it may be, [redacted] sight of such [redacted] object would annihilate my poetical associations with [redacted] imaginary idea of the thing. As [redacted] is, I [redacted] recal without deep interest Drayton's striking introduction of it in [redacted] of the [redacted] of [redacted] 'Nymphidia;' the best poetical fairy tale [redacted] have:—

" ' By [redacted] mandrake's [redacted] goblins;
By [redacted] Lubrican's [redacted]
By [redacted] noise of [redacted] men's [redacted]
In charnel-houses rattling;
By [redacted] hissing of the snake,
The rustling [redacted] fire-drake,
I charge [redacted] this place forsake,
[redacted] Queen Mab be prattling.' "

* He was right; [redacted] was a gigantic specimen of the root of *Bryonia dioica*.

Now, can you tell me anything about the *Lubrican* and the *Fire-drake* ? " *Montgomery* : "The former is evidently the Irish sprite called *Cluricane* or *Luricane* in some parts of the kingdom, and *Leprochauns* in others. The figures in Crofton Croker's *Fairy Tales*, not, indeed, meaning, but 'as roaring and bellowing like a bull.' " * *Montgomery* : "Your explanation so far quite satisfactory,—satisfactory, I mean, as to the name; for I think, after all, the Banshee is the goblin alluded to by Drayton: now then for the *Fire-drake* ? " *Holland* : "There I am puzzled. If it be the *Fir Darrig*, red man, the merry goblin of the Irish mythology, and whose voice is said to be 'as the sound of the waves,' I can only otherwise suppose the marsh-meteor, formerly known as *Draco Volans*, to have been meant by the epithet used by the poet."

The celebrated Dr. Wolff visited me in behalf of the Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews: he dined on one of these occasions with the Rev. W. H. Vale, at Ecclesall parsonage, when several of the local clergy were present; Montgomery being, I believe, the only layman of the party. In the evening, the traveller squatting himself down on an arm-chair near the poet's chair, said,—
"Mr. Montgomery, I understand you have written some interesting books?" *Montgomery* : "I have published several volumes, but chiefly of poetry." *Wolff* : "I am anxious to establish a library at Jerusalem; will you give me copies of your works for that purpose,

* In "The Haunted Cellar;" see also "Master and Man," and "The Little Shoe." "The Cluricane of the County of Cork, the Luricane of Kerry, and the Lurigadanne of Tipperary, appear to be the same as the Leprockan or Leprochaune of Leinster, and the Logharyman of Ulster, probably provincialisms." — Croker.

favour of my hypothesis." A few days afterwards, Montgomery brought to Holland the following from another part of the work: — "How much warmer the interest is, how much more genial the feelings of reality and practicability, and thence how much stronger the impulses of imitation are, in a contemporary writer, especially a contemporary poet, excites youth commencing manhood, has been treated of in the earlier pages of these sketches."* *Montgomery*: "This certainly my own experience; indeed no one can conceive of the delight with which I first learned that Cowper, whose works I read with much enthusiasm, were then a living poet." *Holland*: "I may be wrong; but I still think, that, as your admiration of 'Grave' and your actual imitation of the Moravian Hymns preceded your perusal of Cowper's works, the former 'models' produced the 'vivid effect' on your mind; the poems, however, the latter may have produced 'more genial feelings of reality and practicability' in your sympathy with the poet."

"Well, well," said he, "never mind that present; I am loath to talk to you on a matter of more importance — at least myself; for I often allow an anxiety about the things of this life to harass me more than a solicitude about my eternal interests: but I know nobody to whom I can freely speak on the subject but you or my attorney." He then proceeded to mention, that the loss of some property in the town of Sheffield, on which he had a mortgage for 1600*l.*, had hastily gone to America, leaving him a year's interest unpaid: that this, and other circumstances of the kind which he mentioned, had given him a little

* Biog. Lit. vol. ii. p. 164.

uneasiness; and, unless Mr. Holland knew anything of the movements of the party, he thought he ought to foreclose the mortgage. His friend, however, was of good security, and, to be in his position, at the present, he took the advice.

Mr. Holland happened to mention that he had been much struck with a singularly expressive expression, by which the violent pulpit style of the Independent minister was characterised and commended by some of his partisans: "Our parson," said the man, "is a devil for preaching!" *Montgomery*: "It is curious to see how fond certain profane talkers are of referring to the prince of darkness as a model of excellence. I collected dining a few years since, at Derby, with a gentleman — at least, such he appeared — who told me that he had played at cribbage all night in the coach. I replied, innocently enough, as I thought, 'I suppose, sir, you cannot sleep while travelling?' 'Oh, yes!' was the prompt reply, 'I sleep like the devil.' It occurred to me, at the time, to compose an essay on this theme, referring particularly to those arts and employments in which, it may be presumed, that he who was a liar and a murderer from the beginning, is, indeed, a master-workman. I wrote only a passage, in which I described the devil's dream at the close of one of his busiest days, such as that of the battle of Waterloo. The subject was a thrilling, but not a pleasing one."

Holland: "I have just seen a reverend gentleman who has been reading Wordsworth's Ode on the Installation of Prince Albert as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. He was disappointed with it, and the gratulatory song on that occasion would probably have been a more interesting composition if it had been dated from 'The Mount, near Sheffield,' instead of 'Rydal Mount.'" *Montgomery*: "Persons

very likely to be disappointed in reading such a poem, they only recollect that expressly adapted for musical accompaniment, but capable of discriminating, in some considerable degree, what would be the of the different instrumental parts. I have carefully read it twice over; and although not very striking in passages, and rather crabbed in others, I think, the whole, it unworthy reputation of Wordsworth." *Holland*: "Would you, in a similar case, have adopted a similar variety the metre?" *Montgomery*: "It is probable I should have done something of the sort; because, to say nothing of what might have been suggested by the professor of music, by my own knowledge of the effect of orchestral variety in long a performance, I should least have recollected Gray's Ode on the Installation of the Duke of Grafton at Cambridge in 1769; that written by Keble for the Installation of the Duke of Wellington, Chancellor of Oxford, I saw."

Holland: "Have you read 'Oliver Newman'*, yet?" *Montgomery*: "I have read it this morning, a sitting, including the versions of Scripture passages the end of the volume. I felt myself in a very favourable mood for reading; and long since I experienced two hours of such purely luxurious enjoyment. Unfinished as the tale is, and improved may be sure it would have been, had it been revised and published by the author, we but regret that Southey has not given more poems like this, involving incidents that possess a direct human interest, and in the progress of which we feel that persons having nature, therefore of like passions with ourselves, and whose

* "Oliver Newman: a New England (unfinished): with other Remains. By Robert Southey. 1845."

hopes and sufferings touch the heart, as well as the imagination,—instead of ‘Thalabas,’ ‘Kehamas,’ which, whatever other, perhaps higher, merits they may possess, felt deficient in these qualities.” Judging from the pleasing fragment, cannot but record participation in Montgomery’s regret that themes of his character indicated did not more frequently enter the laureate’s pen in his days.

June 11. Montgomery was present at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of Trinity Church, in the Wicker District of Sheffield; on which occasion an appropriate hymn, composed by him for the purpose, was sung. When Mr. Bruce, the zealous clergyman of the locality, solicited the composition, the poet at first declined, on the ground that he had already written four or five hymns of the same class, and therefore had nothing more to say. It was, however, alleged that the erection of an additional church in the town was itself an event of sufficient interest to inspire a new song of praise. The poet assented, and wrote the following hymn:

“ On the ground on which our day we stand,
 Holy henceforth let us be;
 For thus, Lord God of sea and land,
 Thine own we render Thee,” &c.*

* Original Hymn, CCXCIV.

CHAP. C.

1847.

TRIP TO WATH.—THE VICAR OF WOTH AND HIS WIFE.—AN AFTER-
NOON WALK.—HAY-MAKING.—CONVERSATION.—LETTER TO
MR. H. SANDFORD.—PLANTING A TREE IN WATH-ON-DEARNE
VILLAGE.—VISITOR IN THE MOUNT.—SOME TO FULWICK.
—LINES ON A "GOLDEN PEARL"—THE WATSON FAMILY.—DE-
STRUCTIVE WORK IN WEST WATH.—GEORGE WATSON
LEWIS.—JACKSON'S WATSON.—CHARLES WATSON, —
STANLEY'S WATSON AND LEGG.

JULY. Mr. H. called upon Montgomery, who, much to the surprise of his friend, consented to realise an old and oft-renewed promise of making a trip to Wath; the village, it may be remembered, where the poet resided during the greater part of the which elapsed between his flight from Mirfield and the com- of his residence in Sheffield. The following letter, which was addressed at the time Mr. Everett, will be the most appropriate record of this pleasant visit:—

"Sheffield, July 1847.

"MY DEAR SIR,

"I am sure you will not have forgotten many you made about twenty years ago, to get Montgomery at Wath-on-Dearne, village where time in early life. interval, I have often mentioned how much I should to accompany thither, representing, the time, how easily the trip might

made, the railway from Sheffield passes the place. Saturday morning, I found Mount, finding the poet in a very genial humour, and quite ready to the beauty of the weather, I just hinted, in allusion to the first line of a poem on another subject, how pleasant it would be to have the materials for a poem to commence, 'Bright blows the wind on the banks of the Dearne.' 'But,' he, pleasantly, 'you will find many rhymes to that word.' Gales, who was present, immediately interposed her opinion, that a day's out in the country would do him good. *Holland*: 'I will fetch a cab?' *Gales*: 'By all means I am sure Mr. Montgomery will enjoy the air as well as to ramble with you:' the poet tacitly assented; and, to my surprise, in a few minutes we were going along 'the Midland line:' the train did not stop at Wath, but at Swinton Station, for a pleasant walk of about three miles, mostly between fine shady hedges. The sky was intensely blue and cloudless, reflecting the rays of the sun blazing with a degree of intensity very favourable to the operations of hay-making, and in a way inconvenient to our beloved friend, who, I need not tell you, was either his room, or the weather without, too hot. The wild flowers were in all their glory; and, at intervals, luscious troops of honeysuckles 'courted them,' as the poet said, from the opposite hedge-top: the deadly nightshade appeared only harmless, but attractive in the bright dayspring: and less so—

"The Bryony, with scendant shoot,
Reminding of the Bramble root."

"But of all were we struck with the large size, broad leaves, rose-like bloom of the blackberry bushes. To Montgomery, who was always glad to find scriptural subjects, the sight of a magnificent *rubus* reminded him of Jotham's Parable of the Trees, when they all said 'unto the Bramble, Come thou, and reign over us.' I contented myself with quoting

Elliott's exquisite poem, 'The Woodbine of the Lane,' and with his graceful apostrophe to our roadside companion

" 'Though Woodbines flaunt, and flowers glow
O'er all the fragrant bowers,
Thou need'st not blush to show
Thy white-crowned flowers.'

' We presently passed the house where Montgomery used to visit Brameld, the village bookseller; and then Swinton church, 'in which,' said he, 'I once belonged to a congregation, including many members of the Wentworth family.' You will readily believe that my fancy suggested—though I did not mention it—the contrast between the condition of the run-away boy at Wath feeling his way to the metropolis through the intervention of the rural bibblopole, and that of the eloquent Christian poet—and layman—addressing a large audience in this church, in the course of missionary enterprise, in the presence of Earl Fitzwilliam!

' After walking a little longer, we were in sight of 'the Queen of Villages'; the plain, but not inelegant, spire of the church, the large hall, the very handsome Wesleyan chapel, about a dozen good houses, forming, with the great number of intermingled orchard and other trees, with some beautiful scenery in the rich valley of the Dearne, a very pleasing picture. A few minutes more, and we were in Wath;—Montgomery, after an interval of forty years, once more perambulating a village, where, as he said, was the time of his residence, 'there was not one shabby house, nor hardly an indigent family:' adding, 'I recollect, indeed, that my father died during the overseership of my master, Hunt, who had a passing-ball rung for him, which, I have just now done for him now-a-days.' As we went along the street, my friend mentioned the names of many persons who occupied the houses on either hand, a century before; till coming to a good, plain gray-stone building, which you well enough remember—'this,' said he,

our house : the second window over the door there being of the bed-room.' We entered, and found the tenant very courteous, and ready to show us the premises, the original arrangement of the subsequent of the Montgomery exactly pointed out.

He next proceeded to the of the parish clerk obtain to the church and grave-ground, where the action of the poet's 'Vigil of St. is laid :—

The silent, solemn, simple spot,
The mouldering realm of peace,
Where human passions are forgot,
Where human follies cease.'

"On my naming the sub-clerical functionary that my companion the Montgomery, of whom he might perhaps have heard, promptly expressed respect for 'the gentleman name,' whom he had once known youth in Mr. Hunt's shop, and of whose subsequent fame as a poet he had heard : he seemed rather to doubt identity of characters with the before him. All suspicion, however, instantly that Montgomery adverted to the celebrity of the clerk's father, 'old Billy Evers,' a fiddler—his music having, he believe, occasionally mingled with of Dr. and his protégé Herschel, those private adjacent village of Bolton, mentioned by Southey in 'The Doctor.' On entering, mid-day however, in trio, of midnight, as Edmund did, when he—

" — chose his solitary
Within the porch, '—

He was for me to Evers, whether still, as formerly, on the Eve—

“ ‘All glaring through the ghastly gloom,
 Along the churchyard green,
 The destined victims of the tomb
 In winding-sheets were seen ?’ ”

“ ‘No,’ was the reply, with an evident balancing between modern march of intellect, scepticism, and the old superstition, ‘I never saw anything of the kind, though I have heard that such things used to be seen.’ When we got into the church, Montgomery pointed out we entered the pew, where he used to sit with the old minister. It was lighted by a little window, which gave a view across the Dearne, with Darfield-on-the-Hill in the distance, which, no doubt, was divided with the village preacher and the rural belles of Montgomery, in those dreaming days of his. Following the clerk into the chancel, we next paused to read the inscription on an ancient tablet in ‘the Lady Chapel,’ in memory of Mrs. Sarah Tolson, and another, of hardly inferior antiquity, carved on an oak seat of one of the Saviles, whose ancestor was Lord of Wath, and slain there about 450 years ago, and a female descendant of whom, at the end of the seventeenth century, carried the estate into the family of Tolson,—a name which has often been before the public of late, in connection with litigation between claimants of the Wath Hall property. These old monuments, and the legal dispute which they recalled, affected us more than the plain marble which had been erected when Montgomery left Wath, one in memory of Mary Rhodes, of Abdy, who died in 1796, and the other of William of Sheffield, whom she affianced, and who, dying in the following year, in conformity with his wish, was buried beside her under the chancel floor, in which stood. The old clerk told the story, as I have done, in very plain terms, but it was obvious that the poet silently recognised that claim which the records of blighted hopes and buried lovers have upon our gentler humanity.

“There was one good man in Wath, but we, influenced at that moment by ‘auld lang syne,’ ate the ‘chop’ and the ‘Star,’

the principal radiance of which was the recollection ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~man~~ ~~came~~ to Hunt's shop ~~and~~ ~~he~~ ~~put~~ up.' In the room where we sat there was a large box, belonging, ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~ancient~~ ~~order~~ ~~of~~ ~~Knights~~ ~~of~~ ~~St.~~ ~~John~~ ; ~~and~~ ~~Mont-~~ ~~gomery~~ was not a ~~little~~ amused to learn, in reply to a question ~~asked~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~landlady~~, ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~clubbing~~ ~~represent-~~ ~~atives~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~ancient~~ ~~Templars~~ ~~in~~ ~~Wath~~ ~~were~~ ~~'mostly~~ ~~colliers~~ !' I was amused in another way : while conversing as we sat, about ~~the~~ *genius loci*, Montgomery ~~had~~ ~~men-~~ ~~tioned~~ ~~that~~ ~~he~~ ~~believed~~ ~~the~~ ~~time~~ ~~he~~ ~~was~~ ~~at~~ ~~Wath~~ ~~was~~ ~~about~~ ~~forty~~ ~~years~~ ~~since~~, when he had gone with ~~the~~ ~~Rev.~~ ~~(now~~ ~~Dr.)~~ ~~J.~~ ~~P.~~ ~~Smith~~, ~~to~~ ~~preach~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~village~~ : ~~on~~ ~~his~~ ~~previous~~ ~~visit~~, ~~he~~ ~~said~~, being when he ~~was~~ ~~a~~ ~~'groomsman~~ ' with Mr. Joshua Hunt, who married ~~Miss~~ ~~Turner~~. ~~At~~ ~~the~~ ~~land~~ : 'Was her sister *Hannah* present ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~occasion~~?' *Montgomery* : 'Yes, she was ; and I believe ~~she~~ ~~was~~ ~~also~~ married ~~at~~ ~~Wath~~ ; but I assure you I ~~was~~ ~~not~~ ~~at~~ ~~her~~ wedding. I wrote ~~an~~ ~~acrostic~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~name~~ ~~of~~ ~~Miss~~ ~~Turner~~, the only thing of ~~the~~ ~~kind~~ I ever attempted : but I never gave it to her ; ~~but~~ ~~I~~ ~~have~~ ~~a~~ ~~copy~~ ~~of~~ ~~it~~ ~~now~~.' *Holland* : 'Could you repeat it from memory?' *Montgomery* : 'No ; I tried ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~day~~ ~~when~~ ~~the~~ ~~subject~~ ~~occurred~~ ~~to~~ ~~me~~ ; ~~but~~ ~~I~~ ~~could~~ ~~only~~ ~~write~~ ~~four~~ ~~lines~~, which I think were ~~the~~ ~~fol-~~ ~~lowing~~.' I unwittingly took out my pencil ~~and~~ ~~a~~ ~~slip~~ ~~of~~ ~~paper~~, ~~thinking~~ ~~he~~ ~~would~~ ~~have~~ ~~any~~ ~~objection~~ ~~to~~ ~~my~~ ~~copying~~ ~~the~~ ~~lines~~ : but the spell ~~was~~ ~~broken~~,—he now positively refused ~~to~~ ~~repeat~~ ~~them~~ ! ~~He~~ ~~mentioned~~ ~~that~~, on another occasion, after ~~his~~ ~~residence~~ ~~at~~ ~~Sheffield~~, he ~~had~~ ~~seen~~ ~~Avis~~ ~~Hunt~~, ~~the~~ ~~daughter~~ ~~of~~ ~~his~~ ~~master~~, to witness ~~the~~ ~~marriage~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~person~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~name~~ ~~of~~ ~~Savile~~, after which ~~she~~ ~~was~~ ~~placed~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~bride's~~ ~~train~~ ~~and~~ ~~a~~ ~~sum~~ ~~of~~ ~~money~~, which ~~he~~ ~~had~~ ~~previously~~ ~~entrusted~~ ~~to~~ ~~him~~ ~~for~~ ~~that~~ ~~purpose~~.

"Montgomery would ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~persuaded~~ ~~to~~ ~~call~~ ~~on~~ ~~Mr.~~ ~~H.~~ ~~Partington~~, the vicar of Wath, ~~and~~ ~~he~~ ~~was~~ ~~not~~ ~~would~~ ~~have~~ ~~been~~ ~~cordially~~ ~~welcomed~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~parsonage~~. We took a glass of wine with ~~Mr.~~ ~~Johnson~~, a ~~thriving~~ ~~village~~ ~~liquor-merchant~~, who received us ~~very~~ ~~heartily~~ ; ~~and~~ ~~he~~ ~~did~~ ~~not~~ ~~a~~ ~~little~~ ~~by~~ ~~a~~ ~~remark~~ ~~that~~ ~~he~~ ~~made~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~subject~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~ancient~~ ~~Templars~~ ~~in~~ ~~Wath~~ ~~were~~ ~~'mostly~~ ~~colliers~~ !"

effect: 'Mr. Montgomery, I think you have never been married; I have only this very day been talking of my wife to the woman you were on with Turner!' This was me catching a butterfly with a pair of blacksmith's tongs; and I instantly changed the subject of conversation to the modern improvements of the village, for the carrying of the railway about 150*N.*, including the expenses of an Act of Parliament, had been paid; a singular instance of public spirit in so comparatively small and poor a rural community. In order to enjoy the neighbourhood, we agreed to walk to Rotherham on our way home: an object accomplished with rather more fatigue than we either of us anticipated. On passing 'The Cottage' so common, I told Montgomery that I purposed some day to make a pilgrimage thither to ascertain from Mr. — Brameld whether any of the letters which the young poet once addressed to his late father were still in existence. *Montgomery*: 'You had better allow the letters to remain where they are, if, indeed, they are extant.' *Holland*: 'I think they could not be in better hands than mine.' *Montgomery*: 'They are better where they are.' And yet when I presently afterwards mentioned to him my belief that the Rev. Edward Goodwin had left behind him some of his uncle Cawthorne, the poet, he once advised me to apply to him for a sight of them. This was a faint memorial of the adventures of a beautiful summer's day, spent, as Montgomery declared, very delightfully by him, and I need not say to you, it was as much enjoyed by an equal degree by,

"My dear sir,

"Yours, very sincerely,

"JOHN HOLLARD.

"James Everett, York."

An opportunity having been taken in one of the newspapers, under the guise of a review of "The Weston Hymn Book," only to repudiate that particular collection, but to disparage, generally,

use of such compositions in churches, the writer avowing, at the same time, a special dislike of the hymns of Montgomery, as being "anything but church-like,"—*Montgomery*: "I suppose you have seen the newspaper notice of Miss Harrison's Hymn Book?" *Holland*: "I have; one of the clergy called yesterday to ask me whether I meant to take any notice of the attack which had been made on the poetical reputation of my friend Montgomery?" I replied, that I did not; and I hoped no one else would, as the article sufficiently answered itself, the writer's ignorance of facts being almost equal to his dislike of evangelical elements." *Montgomery*: "You did quite right, I dined on Monday at Weston with Dr. Pury, the newly-appointed Bishop of Melbourne, when the Misses Harrison, who appeared to feel, as well they might, the ungraciousness of the attack on themselves, asked me what they ought to do. I advised them, by all means, to take no notice of an article which, if let alone, would, in a few days, be little remembered in 'the last week's newspaper.' I afterwards addressed to the ladies, for their information, a letter containing some facts with which they were not accurately acquainted."

July 31. *Montgomery*: "I am glad to find you have escaped safely from the storm and all the other perils of the Peak."* *Holland*: "I shall not soon forget the alarm of some of my friends on being feared in the little lake in the celebrated Castleton Cavern." *Montgomery*: "Nor shall I ever forget my sensations under similar circumstances. Indeed, I then felt more powerfully the combined impression of awe and sublimity, when I lay in that shallow boat on my back, than my

* Mr. Holland had been spending a few days at Hope, in Derbyshire.

nearly in contact the under surface of a mass thousands of tons of rock, that only appeared suspended, were, by a hair: while the number of immense blocks lying about, reminded me that those portions of the mountain had, some period, been actually detached. When I used to visit that neighbourhood on the annual recurrence of Bible Society and missionary anniversaries, Dr. Orton Vicar of Hope; and the Methodists, placed they were, between the noted preaching-stand of Bradwell and the famous love-feast locality of Woodlands, exceedingly zealous and flourishing. Did you the church or the chapel? *Holland*: "We went to both: to the church in the morning and afternoon; and to the Wesleyan chapel in the evening. The present worthy Vicar of Hope is the Rev. W. C. B. Cave; and I was equally surprised and gratified to recognise an excellent wife sitting in the lowest form among the poor in the Methodist chapel. Indeed, I was more struck with the fact—for rare it is now-a-days—of a lady in her position affording such evidence that her religion raised her above church or chapel prejudices, than I was by the magnificent mountain-masses of Mam-Tor, Winhill, Losehill, and the Winnats, which I could see from the chapel windows. I have mentioned to two or three clergymen, since I came home, the fact of the frequent attendance of good Mrs. Cave in this little hill-side conventicle, with the circumstantial aggravations of the case—such as the great vehemence of the rustic preacher, the loud and indecorous responses of the humble mountaineers, the great number of them present, the hearty singing of Wesley's Hymns, with which the lady in question evidently provided—nay, that she had been known to go into a class-meeting! and, above all, the consideration that she is,

in all other respects, ■ active, intelligent, and excellent ■ my good clerical friends not only ■ pressed their surprise ■ my statement, but regarded such conduct ■ a vicar's wife ■ highly scandalous — ■ morning attendances of those Peak ■ church notwithstanding!" *Montgomery*: "The more shame for them; her conduct ■ a Christian ■ is highly to her credit. Why should she ■ join in social worship with her methodist neighbours when there ■ no service ■ the church? And why should ■ not make herself personally acquainted with, and even ■ courage, those good men who are engaged in preaching the Gospel ■ ■ of persons in the parish who might not ■ to hear her husband? I warrant she is not ■ that account less active in the discharge of her other positive and proper duties." *Holland*: "Not she, indeed, if I may judge from the reports of the villagers ■ to the way in which she labours among them; and from what I ■ of her activity in shepherding up all the boys and girls who were old enough, to be examined and instructed preparatory to their confirmation by the bishop."

August 27. *Montgomery*, accompanied by Miss Gales and Mr. Holland, paid a visit, ■ the poet himself ■ generally ■ a year, to Brightholmlee, ■ look ■ the estate, ■ tilt, &c., on which he had a mortgage of twenty-two hundred pounds. On the way thither, he pointed out the resemblance of the old park and Beeley woods, as they stretched along the northern bank of the Don, ■ the form of an alligator; especially noticing ■ line of sunshine, which rested upon the trees, ■ the longest and narrowest he ever ■ On coming in sight of Wharnccliffe Lodge, he concurred with Mr. Holland in the idea, that the lofty rocky crest of the wood would be a very fine situation for ■ obelisk. On

reaching Dickenson's residence, poet and friend viewed the adjacent tilt, and witnessed the reduction of four or three lumps of steel into rods, under the hammer: they then rambled along the Don side, opposite Wharnccliffe, talking of the old legend of the "Dragon;" admiring the pictorial effect of the trains of carriages, as they flew along the Leeds and Manchester Railway,—alternately emerging from, and diving into, the glades of the forest, a long, light, graceful steam-cloud, occasionally marking the track of the engine through the trees, where the road itself was invisible. The mill had been purchased by Dickenson's father of a bird-lime manufacturer, a rare occupation in these days; and Montgomery was a good deal amused, while standing by the ruin of the old mill, to learn something of the method by which the bark of the holly was converted into an article once in considerable demand. Some allusion having been made to the story of "Margaret Catchpole," Montgomery said: "The heroine, in one of her letters from New South Wales, states that, during the period of incubation, the male bird of paradise sits sitting and her with his beautiful train of feathers; I shall perhaps make any poetical use of this curious circumstance; but Holland may." *Holland*: "I am of the alleged instinct of the bird in such an of connubial attachment, a little founded on fact as that peculiarity of its conformation from which the old specific name of 'Paradisæa apoda,' 'without legs,' was derived; besides, I believe, the true of paradise, the plumage of which has long been known and admired as an elegant female in this country, belong to the New World, but from the Islands in the Chinese Sea." *Montgomery*: "I must leave the natural history of the bird with you; it

probable, however, that there is elegant in Australia which the popular appellation given, and which, at any rate, there reputed Margaret Catchpole describes it; for *she* likely have invented the fiction.* The evening was exceedingly fine, and reminded Montgomery of spent by him on the adjacent sylvan heights of Wharnccliffe thirty years before, and the incidents of which are glowingly recorded in his lines "The Little Cloud." On this latter occasion, indeed, not *one*, but

"A thousand clouds in air display'd
Their floating of light shade,
The sky, like Ocean's channels
In long meandering streaks between."

Much of this beauty had vanished from the sky before the little party reached the Oughtibridge railway station,

* We have allowed the observations to retain their place in the they originally made; but it appears, a reference the work in question, that Montgomery unconsciously substituted the *Bird of Paradise* for the "*Botany Bay Pheasant*" in description. Margaret Catchpole says in a letter her friends in England:—"I have heard and read of delicate attentions paid sex by of noble and generous dispositions; but I scarcely ever heard of such devoted attention I one day witnessed in noble bird towards his mate. I her sitting in heat of the meridian upon her nest, and the cock bird near her, with expanded like a bower overshadowing her; as the sun moved, so did he turn his elegant parasol guard her from his rays. and then he turned bright see she was comfortable; and she answered inquiry with a gentle rustle of her feathers." Specimens of both beautiful "*Lyre Bird*" (*Mamura Superba*) are in the Museum at Ipswich, with a attached them, importing they by Margaret Catchpole Botany Bay Mrs. Cobbold, and by a relative of the latter presented to the Museum. — *Life of Margaret Catchpole*, p. 362.

where, just as the [redacted] up, [redacted] poet was pointing [redacted] the [redacted] accordance of Milton's "Grey-hooded Eve" [redacted] the quiet aspect of Nature around them.

A young clergyman who [redacted] recently [redacted] reside in Sheffield, having sent to Montgomery a [redacted] volume entitled "The Missionary," which evinced poetic [redacted] as well as pious sentiment, received the following letter of acknowledgment:—

James Montgomery [redacted] *Rev. G. Sandford.*

"The Mount, Sept. 6. 1811.

"REVEREND [redacted]

"Accept my best thanks for the gift of a copy of your Missionary Poem, which I have read with much pleasure for its Christian spirit, [redacted] the easy [redacted] (on whole) graceful versification. I [redacted] my critical acumen [redacted] venturing [redacted] express my opinion that it is not [redacted] exercise of your talent in this adventurous line, though probably the longest and most elaborated. Be this [redacted] it may, I might be tempted [redacted] encourage you to proceed and prosper; but this I durst [redacted] do to the most promising and aspiring youth of [redacted] age,—an age in which almost everybody [redacted] anybody writes, and almost nobody reads, poetry. By [redacted] I merely [redacted] that verse, even excellent [redacted] marketable of [redacted] literary commodities; [redacted] volume in twenty (I believe), *by its sale*, defraying [redacted] expenses of printing and advertising, in the usual [redacted]. The only safeguard from absolute [redacted] in [redacted] cases is, previous [redacted] running the risk, [redacted] secure [redacted] subscription [redacted] author's personal friends and their connections [redacted] cover the cost, or the outfit (I may call it) of [redacted] fragile [redacted] that [redacted] bear the poet and his hopes upon a sea of un- [redacted] depths [redacted] shallows, without chart or compass, to [redacted] port [redacted] fortune [redacted] all [redacted] (perhaps [redacted] consciously) seek, however heroically they [redacted] such [redacted] any other [redacted] aims and considerations. This, however,

applies emphatically to them only the perseverance to labour at this 'idle trade,' when youth and years are flown, with all the gay beauties depicted on the morning of early youth. There probably never was a time in the country when so much poetry, so much good poetry, was composed by a multitude of contemporaries, and published in newspapers, magazines, reviews, &c., than may be seen every day everywhere. In this *scrap-reading*, and the volumes from which these precious things are pilfered remain on the author's hands, or lie on the shelves, they are swept by the winds of nature, or is, of trade, by dealers in waste paper. Knowing that the great lot of nine-tenths of the juvenile productions which are unceasingly cast upon the mercy of the public, with all its mercy, it is my painful duty, indeed, of the penalties which I must often pay for my own casual notoriety (having, in this respect, unluckily succeeded a little more than many others); it is my painful duty, I say, to be compelled, in faithfulness and in compassion, to tell numbers of candidates for immortality by mortal means that, whatever their genius or its achievements may be, they must take the precaution above-mentioned against the almost certainty of damage instead of prospective gains, if they appear in print on their own account, as no prudent publisher will give a shilling for copyright, or hazard one in publishing the rhymes of an unknown Homer or Horace. This withering information I have so often an occasion to convey, in answer to applications for help and counsel by ingenious young persons of both sexes, that the sight of manuscript, or a letter by post in a strange hand, with a suspicious aspect (which I know by instinct divine), is a terror to me. To you, as well as myself, at liberty, I will here break off once by saying, that no particular reference is made to your experiment in this precarious field of composition. I entered upon it solely to see you understand why I could give no advice, and might advise you, if you were disposed to follow, as you honestly and honourably might, poetry, as something more than a delightful occupa-

tion of a fine talent that might be turned to the benefit and blessing of others yourself.

" truly, your obliged friend,

" J. "

" Rev. George "

Whatever effect, whether any, produced on the views or inclinations of Mr. Sandford by letter of kind and candid advice, the predilections of amateur poet presently merged in the discharge of onerous, active duties incumbent in a densely populated district of the town of Sheffield; but creating, the time, a new and stronger bond of union with his honoured friend, by zealously aiding him on all occasions when local meetings were held in behalf of the Moravian missions.

One fine afternoon in October, Mr. Holland called upon Montgomery, and walked with him to Kenwood, the beautiful residence of Wostenholme, whose "marble house" has been mentioned before. Mrs. W. met the poet and his friend at the door, intimating a wish that the former would gratify her by planting two trees, which, she said, lay in readiness on the lawn, where the gardener was also waiting to render assistance. Proceeding at once to the spot selected, Montgomery addressed himself to the task, while he somewhat surprised the gardener by asking which foot he should apply the spade! A small *Araucaria imbricata* having been duly fixed in the ground, Mr. Holland said, "Mrs. Wostenholme, I have witnessed with much pleasure the planting of this Chilian pine by the Christian poet: may it strike its deep, head high, and spread its branches wide; and, warmed by sunshine, refreshed by the showers, and fanned by the breezes of heaven, may its evergreen head and enlarging shadow long symbolise the increasing prosperity and happiness of the present occupants of

mansion : and hereafter, ■■■ distant period—I hope ■■■ period ■ very distant, —when Kenwood shall ■■■ passed into other hands, and ■■■ who have witnessed and taken part in the planting of this beautiful pine shall likewise have passed away, —may it continue ■■■ known and honoured ■ MONTGOMERY'S TREE ; thus vying in celebrity with the Penshurst Oak, which sprung from ■■■ planted ■ the birth of ■■■ Philip Sydney !” “I ■■■ only,” said Montgomery, “in reply ■■■ your good wishes, answer, *Amen!*” We have no record of the conversation of the evening, beyond ■ memorandum ■ the effect that the Rev. S. D. Waddy told Montgomery that Lord Eldon, when ■ boy, ■■■ of the singers in the Old Orphan House, *i. e.*, the first Methodist chapel at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. A few days afterwards, Montgomery gave the following lines to Mrs. Wootenholme :—

“ May these Trees grow up and flourish,
 Earthward spread, but heavenward shoot ;
 Suna, and showers, and breezes nourish
 Stem ■■■ branch, from either root :
 Through all changing ■■■ seen
 ■■■ in undecaying green,
 While their pictured shadows show,
 Dial-like, Time's ■■■ below !
 So may you, by wedlock plighted,
 Twain yet one, on ■■■ fair ground,
 ■■■ and ■■■ in love united,
 ‘ Trees of Righteousness ’ ■■■ found ;
 And while years on earth you spend,
 ■■■ ■■■ heaven ■■■ spirit tend,
 Till, transplanted hence, you stand
 ‘ Trees ■■■ Life ’ at God's right hand ! ”

Oct. 15. Mr. Holland called ■■■ “ the Mount ” ■■■ morning. Montgomery ■■■ a Common Prayer ■■■ in

hand, and from it, after a word — two of preface, read aloud, and evidently with a deep feeling solemnity in unison with the subject, the psalm of the day, the 104th. He had once, he said, been casually present at a family Homerton, when Dr. Chalmers read and commented on that sublime Eucharistic hymn, so full of “majesty and sweetness.” *gomery*: “We had rather an affecting service in this room yesterday: I was talking with the Rev. W. Newstead, the Missionary, when Mr. Heppenstall entered, introducing a venerable Quaker of the name of Fox, who saluted me with a patriarchal gravity and cordiality worthy of his ancient namesake; having, as he said, often had communion with me in spirit, though never before in flesh. In a few minutes Mr. Josiah Conder called; and after some conversation on missionary topics, Mr. Newstead rising to depart, the Quaker asked if it would be agreeable for me to spend a few moments waiting silently upon God; of which I assented. After a while the good man was moved to speak, chiefly with reference to myself. What he said is worth for me to repeat; but I may at least say that I felt the solemnity of the occasion, and not the less inasmuch as when the venerable stranger had ended his exhortation he quietly dropped upon his knees, and offered a very sweet and appropriate prayer. I could not but recollect the silent meeting which I had held on a former occasion, as I think I told you in this room, with the late Joseph John Gurney and the friend who accompanied him to me.”

Mr. Blackwell, how much benefit both in health and spirits the poet derived from his sojourn at Harrogate in the preceding year, kindly mentioned and pressed him to visit him there this autumn, but he hesitated to incur the fatigue of a visit to New-

castle ; ■■■■ reply was, " I dare ■■■■ undertake ■■■■
 it. Remembering ■■■■ agreeable and grateful
 ■■■■ how much benefit I derived from the former
 experience of your hospitality ■■■■ Newcastle, ■■■■
 social intercourse and daily interchange of neighbourly
 ■■■■ when ■■■■ last year ■■■■ Harrogate, I ■■■■
 ashamed ■■■■ humbled to think that I ■■■■ lay up
 another hope of having equal ■■■■ look back
 (should I be spared in well-being through another year
 of mercy) upon ■■■■ similar happiness in fellowship with
 you ■■■■ your amiable family during the ensuing ■■■■
 turn. The only prospect I have of leaving home ■■■■
 ■■■■ time is, that I ■■■■ under obligation, if possible, ■■■■
 spend a few days ■■■■ Fulneck next month with my
 widowed sister-in-law and her daughter, my niece
 Harriet, who is married ■■■■ an excellent minister of our
 church, ■■■■ whom, however, soon after their union the
 chastening hand of our heavenly Father, —

" Good when He gives, — supremely good ;
 Nor less when ■■■■ denies " —

has been laid for ■■■■ than two years." He went ■■■■
 Fulneck for ■■■■ few days ; and ■■■■ find the following
 lines, ■■■■ " Harrogate, Oct. 1847 " : —

" *On a Golden Pen, the Gift of a Friend.*

" Know ye who take this pen in hand,
 'Tis no light weapon to command ;
 Its point can, like Ithuriel's spear,
 Make all things *what they are* appear ;
 Or (not less prompt to mar and blot),
 Make all appear *what they are* ■■■■
 Till ■■■■ nothing, then, that will not bear
 Heaven's open sunshine, earth's free air ;
 Nor trace a line you dare not ■■■■
 Before God's righteous judgment seat."

Montgomery: "I perceive from the newspaper that my old friend, Rev. William Bagshaw, of Banner Cross, died on Friday; he was one of those individuals who used to send me a hamper of game in the season; and this he did every year since 1833, when I revised and conducted through the press his work 'On Man.'" *Holland*: "I read the book, though I have looked into it." *Montgomery*: "Read it for the sake of the subject, and I am sure you will be the better for the exercise." *Holland*: "I will endeavour to do so; but the Derbyshire family to which Mr. Bagshaw belonged is a better memorial in its archives than that book, however some of them may perhaps now-a-days forget or lightly esteem the distinction. Gibbon, you will recollect, has, in a memorable passage of which every poet may be proud, reminded the Spencers that, notwithstanding the fame of Marlborough, the 'Faerie Queene' is the brightest jewel in their coronet; I venture to say, despite the knighthood of the Oaks' branch, and with all respect to the authorship of the late worthy clergyman, that the 'Apostle of the Peak,' Nonconformist though he was, is nobilissimus in the Bagshaw pedigree." *Montgomery*: "You would know the late Mrs. Bagshaw, who was originally a Miss Foxlow, of Staveley?" *Holland*: "She was exactly my mother's age; both were born and played playmates within the precincts of the ancient residence of the Frenchvilles, of Staveley. Mrs. Bagshaw was a lady of exemplary kindness and piety; and she always spoke of you in special terms of esteem." *Montgomery*: "I believe, however, that I was formerly regarded with less dislike, as being a Jacobin; but a common friend, my 'Agnes,' ingratiated me into her good opinion; and when my birthday was publicly

celebrated in 1825, she sent a pine-apple toward the dessert; and, what was much better, afterwards subscribed guineas a year to Moravian Missions; a contribution which her daughter, Greaves, continues." Montgomery, fancying that his casual mention of "Agnes" in this conversation given Holland a clue to the identity of that poetical heroine, immediately added, "I have sometimes al- determined to make again allude ladies, whom you possibly apply any of my verses." *Holland*: "I you will not do so; I can conscientiously say that I to make use of the information but what I believe you would approve, and the world thank both for it at the end of the next century." *Montgomery*: I make vow; but you may depend upon it that the end of the century the world will nothing about either me."

About a week afterwards Montgomery called upon Mr. Holland, when it immediately evident, from his countenance, that he had some painful tidings to communicate. He presently explained the of his disquiet, by placing in the hands of his friend a long letter which he had just received from the secretary of the Moravian Missionary Society, describing the entire destruction of the settlement of "Montgomery" Tobago, by the dreadful tornado which devastated that island on the 11th of October. On the of November the Rev. Hugh Stowell, of Manchester, preached at St. Paul's Church, Sheffield, in behalf of these missions, which occasion he not only made an impressive allusion to disaster at Tobago, but appealed earnestly his hearers to lose time in repairing the which they might be originally to have raised in honour their beloved

Montgomery: "I have been reading in the 'Eclectic Review' a notice of a popular 'Life of George Fox the Quaker;' it deeply interested me. I should like to meet with your Journal, an original folio, and which, it seems, contains a longer account of his labours and his sufferings, under his own hand." *Holland*: "I have read both your Journals of John Wesley; and while I must say there is no comparison between the two zealous reformers, as to their orthodox perception and exposition of evangelical truth, they certainly resemble one another in 'labours abundant,' and in their personal sufferings for Christ's sake, in a far greater degree than many persons imagine." *Montgomery*: "Fox, you are doubt aware, used to visit this neighbourhood on his preaching excursions; and I am told there still exist the remains of an old meeting-house, which mark the locality of his earliest labours, on Cadman's estate, near Handsworth." *Holland*: "There are only the walls, but a little secluded burying-place in the middle of a field, where, as appears from the dilapidated tombs and moss-grown gravestones, several members of the family of Stacey, who were among the earliest Quakers, are interred. Fox, in his Journal, repeatedly mentions his visits to this place; and once, if I rightly recollect, he had a narrow escape there from falling into the clutches of a constable. It so happens that at this moment I am reading a volume of Thomas Ellwood, written by himself. He appears to have been the John Nelson of Quakerism; and he performed a nobly heroic part in the characteristic attribute of the Quakers for which many sections of the church are at this day much indebted to the persecuted Friends of the seventeenth century—the unflinching testimony which they bore to the right of a conscientious

[REDACTED] religious matters." *Montgomery*: "Yes; they suffered for what we enjoy: they laboured, and we [REDACTED] entered [REDACTED] their rest. Neither you nor I, probably, [REDACTED] a *whipping-post*. Ellwood, as I [REDACTED] member, [REDACTED] than once describes the savage cruelty [REDACTED] some of his companions in tribulation [REDACTED] 'whipping-post,' [REDACTED] through imprisonment [REDACTED] spoiling of their goods. [REDACTED] was a poet also, but [REDACTED] memorable as the friend of Milton, and [REDACTED] having, according [REDACTED] his own account, which has so often been printed, suggested the composition of '*Paradise Regained*.'" *Holland*: "There [REDACTED] something very touching [REDACTED] the simplicity of the narrative in which Ellwood relates that interview with Milton:—the Quaker takes [REDACTED] the poet 'a pretty box in Giles Chalfont, the pestilence then growing hot in London;' but the spirit of persecution was, it seems, hotter still, for the Quaker [REDACTED] presently clapped into prison.* On being released, he hastened [REDACTED] call upon the poet, who, 'after [REDACTED] common discourse, called for a manuscript of his, which being brought he delivered it' to Ellwood, bidding him take it home with [REDACTED] and read it at his leisure; and that precious manuscript was '*Paradise Lost*!'" *Montgomery*: "I have just finished reading Jackson's '*Life of Charles Wesley*;' it not only abounds in curious information, [REDACTED] might be expected, but is written in [REDACTED] of admirable candour, directed by sound judgment: one [REDACTED] compelled to admit the force of the arguments

* [REDACTED] is worthy of remark, that about the same time Wordsworth happened to meet with the *Life of Ellwood*, and [REDACTED] have been struck, as well he might, with the worthy Quaker's [REDACTED] to Milton; but it does not appear that he was at all affected by the accounts of ministerial labour [REDACTED] personal suffering which form the staple of this curious book.—*Memoirs of Wordsworth*, vol. ii. p. 460.

in favour of Methodism, from the abundant evidence of sincerity and [REDACTED] marked the zealous [REDACTED] of its [REDACTED] apostles." *Holland*: "And on [REDACTED] delicate subject of the early relation between Moravianism and Methodism, I think Mr. Jackson has exercised [REDACTED] discrimination; for while he abates nothing of the old charges against Molther, which appear indeed to [REDACTED] well founded, he acknowledges, [REDACTED] explicitly than perhaps any other writer of his community [REDACTED] previously done, the religious obligations of the Wesleys to the United Brethren." *Montgomery*: "Molther appears [REDACTED] have been not only a *high Calvinist*, as the phrase is, but [REDACTED] *Antinomian*; neither of which appellations were applicable to the Moravians, [REDACTED] a church, whatever may have been the [REDACTED] with individuals. I feel [REDACTED] sympathy with Charles Wesley, in his individual character, than with his brother John; for, superior [REDACTED] in many respects the latter may have been—and undoubtedly was—I cannot help regarding him rather with [REDACTED] de- [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] than affection. To [REDACTED] feeble and fond of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I have ever been, there [REDACTED] something like the preternatural in the early rising, continual riding, and incessant preaching, with [REDACTED] the concomitant prayer and conversational meetings of that extraordinary man; and all this despite the [REDACTED] of the year, the severity of the weather, and, [REDACTED] than all, amidst the rude molestation, and [REDACTED] the murderous intentions of riotous mobs; [REDACTED] say nothing of the demands of almost incessant controversy. But the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] inspired, in the [REDACTED] in which God *does* inspire those who rely wholly upon [REDACTED] aid, while they are heart and soul actively engaged in [REDACTED] service." *Holland*: "And nothing stirs in me so painful a feeling as to hear the labours of such holy, self-sacrificing preachers spoken of sometimes worse than slightly, by persons who never either

tasted of their sufferings, or shared in their zeal for their common Master's **Enthusiasm**, more or less, **successful** carrying out of any great **surprise**, spiritual **otherwise**; and the principle which certain amiable bigots of our day apply in their estimate of the proceedings of the great Reformers in Germany and in Britain, of the early Puritans and Quakers of the seventeenth century, and of the first Methodists, would, if applied **it should be**, to most of our great naval and military achievements, compel a sad drawback **the national glory.**" *Montgomery*: "You are quite right; and **an illustration**, take the **of Luther himself**: if there be **uninspired individual** whose character does and ought to command the admiration of all true Protestants, it is *his*; and yet, to go **farther than** **passage** which I have this very day read in 'The Doctor,' we **placed in something like** **dilemma** between the necessity of admitting the plenary apology for those failings of poor human nature to which the best and greatest of reformers are liable, viz., that they **men of like passions** with ourselves, or of repudiating, **least to** **extent**, **work** evidently ordered and owned by God. So, **the other hand**, there **phases in the history of the Church**, antecedent to the time of Luther, **views of which are** **be modified** by our ability and disposition to discriminate between the essentials and the circumstantialia of any great religious movement." *Holland*: "I have been much interested in the perusal of a university sermon by Mr. Stanley, the biographer of Dr. Arnold, in which the preacher represents the apostle Peter **exemplifying** in **character** the energy and the **of the sincere** evangelical enthusiast, the fervour and the zeal, without which, humanly speaking, the infant church would have lacked one of **influential agencies**. Little

as I am disposed [REDACTED] in any case or in [REDACTED] unwilling [REDACTED] I would [REDACTED] to suspect Mr. Stanley of the *tendimus* [REDACTED] *Latium*, in [REDACTED] notion [REDACTED] the preservation [REDACTED] much [REDACTED] holy [REDACTED] divine [REDACTED] due [REDACTED] union of anarchy and superstition with heroic zeal, which characterised the system of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I am [REDACTED] you will agree with [REDACTED] in admiring [REDACTED] indisputable eloquence of the following passage:—‘I am [REDACTED] saying that system [REDACTED] a complete representation of St. Peter’s character; it doubtless was in [REDACTED] respects an exaggeration and distortion of it. But if there [REDACTED] any such general resemblance [REDACTED] had been stated, then I know not the wisdom of denying [REDACTED] here also our Lord’s promise [Matt. xvi. 18, 19.] [REDACTED] fulfilled, and that in the connexion which the great city of the middle ages sought to establish between itself and St. Peter, there [REDACTED] something more than local tradition or fanciful association. I know not why the [REDACTED] determined opponent of that ancient system should [REDACTED] recognise the shadow of this undoubted truth, when, in the most magnificent edifice ever yet consecrated [REDACTED] Christian worship, he reads the majestic inscription traced in colossal characters round the cupola which overhangs the Apostle’s grave:—‘*Tu es Petrus [REDACTED] super hanc Petram ædificabo Ecclesiam [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Claves Regni Cælorum.*’”

* [REDACTED] and *Essays on the Apostolic Age*, by A. [REDACTED] Stanley, M.A., 1847.

CHAP. CL

1841

CONVERSATION. — LETTER TO THE LITERARY CLUB. — BRITISH
 SOULPTURES. — BENNETT'S "MIND IN THE SOUL." — ANTIQUA-
 TION IN THE TEMPLE. — HICKWALLS. — WHOLESALE MURDER
 IN MORAVIAN CONVERTS. — CHARTISM. — OFFER'S "PILGRIM'S
 PROGRESS." — SOCIETIES IN THE TEMPLE. — THE
 — THE — MEETING. — CONVER-
 SATION. — JOHN — CHRISTIAN UNITY.

The poet entered upon this year in a least an ordinary health and spirits, and during a year's visit which Mr. Holland paid to Mount he was very cheerful. The conversation upon the demonstrations made in certain quarters, at that period, against Dr. Hampden's appointment to the see of Hereford, the poet being decidedly with those who took the side of the bishop elect in that memorable controversy. Among other things, Montgomery and he spent a day at Oxford; and on Mr. Holland playfully remarking that he should like to make a pilgrimage with him to that famous University, he replied, with much gravity, "I should certainly like to visit the place; but it is not probable I shall, for I feel that my own pilgrimage on earth is fast drawing towards a close." He spoke in terms of praise of Charles Knight's prologue, as delivered at Drury Lane Theatre the night of the play given in aid of the fund for the purchase of Shakspeare's house. The well-known Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was then lecturing in

Sheffield, being mentioned, Montgomery said: — ■ the 'Mount' yesterday; 'The Wanderer of Switzerland' ■ one of the first works in ■ which, when a very young man, he had eagerly read and intensely admired in America. I am expecting ■ morning call from ■ poetess on Saturday; here ■ ■ note from Eliza Cook, whose ■ you have often seen in the 'Iris,' soliciting ■ interview, which, of course, I ■ avoid." He had just read the seventh volume of "The Doctor, &c.:" he said, "the publication of the mass of memoranda contained in this volume, curious ■ much of it undoubtedly is, will hardly be deemed complimentary ■ the memory of Robert Southey, who, in ■ best days, would certainly not have indulged in such elaborate, verbose trifling, to call it by no ■ ■ I was, I confess, much amused with the account of Mr. Wyndham's falling in love with the poor Scottish lassie in the wood ■ Dunkeld, and his taking ■ John Sinclair behind the Speaker's chair in the House of Commons, to acknowledge the impression she had made upon him, and yet this was the man who, as Wilberforce told me, had the highest spirit of any individual with whom he ■ acquainted!"

A number of gentlemen in Liverpool, having formed a "Roscoe Club," determined upon holding ■ grand soirée ■ the evening of the 1st of February. Among other persons ■ whom they addressed invitations, ■ Montgomery, who returned the following answer, which was read at the meeting by H. R. Sandbach, Esq., the chairman:—

Montgomery ■ the Council of the Roscoe Club, Liverpool.

"The Mount, Jan. ■ ■

■ GENTLEMEN,

"With my ■ ■ the courteous invitation ■ the intended soirée of your members, on Tuesday next, I

the necessity of stating, I have no health nor strength to avail myself of the privilege. In the past, I have forborne to take that active part, which was my delight, in the affairs of our local institutions, and consequently I have been occasional overtures to be a sharer in engagements elsewhere. When 'the grasshopper' is a burden, enjoyments, more than labours, become stimulating and exhausting to an enfeebled and discouraged mind, for I am mine—the more vigorous, the other more sanguine—though from boyhood, silently aspiring so long for, and aim at, some distinction among those who were themselves distinguished in poetry and criticism, and which I have never attained.

"Forty years ago, when I was timidly creeping into obscurity, as an unknown and unpatronised adventurer, both in verse and prose, Mr. Roscoe spontaneously marked me; and, in several communications through the post, gave me counsels and consolations, which were peculiarly seasonable, when I lay under the ban of the Edinburgh reviewers, and the English journalists seemed to say a good word for an excommunicated intruder 'on the lower slopes of Parnassus.' Mr. Roscoe's favourable sentiments, precious in themselves, were doubly so as pledges to my hopes—that compositions which such a man commended would, to some extent, 'find audience find, though few,' in other quarters where judgment was not less free, though more arbitrary (in the hard sense of the word), before a body of infallible inquisitors, whose motto was, '*Judex damnatur cum nocens absolvitur*,' but which ought to have been, '*Lasciate ogni speranza, voi che intrate*.'

"I am glad of the opportunity of acknowledging my early obligations to your eminent fellow-citizen, and especially to avail myself of this opportunity, because I am one in a thousand, when his townspeople of a second generation, from that with which he was contemporary, have determined to be a body worthy of themselves, and worthy of him, to

their gratitude, not in perishable marble or brass, but in living, breathing, and human form, which ought never to die, but perpetuate its existence through an unbroken chain of its members, enjoying, diffusing, and bequeathing to Liverpool, and its descendants, the blessings of its memory, by the importation of one who, by importing into its harbour the treasures of Tuscan literature, and through the whole island, he ruled the public taste by the revival of its glories, the records of their deeds, the spirits of the past, to exercise sovereignty on the banks of the Mersey, as formerly on the banks of the Arno, and Liverpool the Athens of Britain, from whence the elegant literature was carried wherever the English languages were understood.

"The names of few of our illustrious poets and men of letters are distinctly associated with the names of the places where they were born, or in which they flourished; the metropolis frequently having been their rendezvous and market for books and their authors. Your great man so exalted the provincial press, that its character thenceforward has been so disparaged as formerly (perhaps) deserved to be, for the meanness of its issues, the poverty of its performances. and Liverpool spontaneously redeemed and established their credit so signally, with the former the names of Wordsworth, and Southey, and Coleridge, are yet divorced from the city of their first appearance, and lost in the unmeaning form of "lake poets," of Roscoe is intimately linked with Liverpool, and he mentioned, remembered even without the honourable distinction of his residence, 'Roscoe of Liverpool!' The collocation is unexceptionable and unambiguous. As 'Roscoe,' then, derived from 'Liverpool,' 'Liverpool' never of her 'Roscoe,' or cease to be by its influence and the effects of its long and useful connection with it in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

"These are crude remarks, but accept them, as they have

from my [redacted] through [redacted] pen, for I have [redacted] [redacted] them.

"I am, gentlemen, very truly [redacted] respectfully,

"Your obliged friend and servant,

"J. MONTGOMERY."

February 11. *Holland*: "Here [redacted] recently issued parts of the 'Journal of the Asiatic Society,' which contain, [redacted] you will see, lithographed fac-similes of the [redacted] cuneiform inscriptions [redacted] Behistun, [redacted] Persia, with translations by Major Rawlinson." *Montgomery*: "And what does he make out of them?"

Holland: "Such a kind and degree of meaning [redacted] amounts [redacted] least [redacted] a strong probability that he has found [redacted] clue to the phonetic values of most of the characters employed in one set of the tablets, for it is difficult to believe any wholly [redacted] translation of the symbols would yield passages of such clear and congruous import [redacted] those which are here printed along with [redacted] fac-simile of the original." *Montgomery*: "You will recollect this neighbourhood is, in some degree, identified with investigations of this class of monuments. The last of the Wortley-Montagues travelled in quest of written mountains in Arabia; having, [redacted] Mr. Hunter supposes*, caught an interest in the subject from a familiarity with the inscription of that rock on which his infancy [redacted] cradled at Wharfedale Lodge, and it has recently, [redacted] perceive†, fallen [redacted] the lot of our townsman, Mr. Stirling, to be the medium of placing [redacted] the British Museum a [redacted] valuable and [redacted] collection of Assyrian sculptures, obtained by his friend, Mr. Hector, from the ancient mounds opened by [redacted] Botta [redacted] Khorsabad." *Holland*: "I am told by [redacted] Stirling that [redacted] cases of anti-

* Hallamshire, p. 1

† *Athenaeum*, No. 1087. p. 962

quities of the same class, but from another locality, ■■■ previously arrived at the Museum; and that these monuments, and others that may be expected, ■■■ likely ■■■ illustrate in ■■■ extraordinary ■■■■■ the history of ancient Babylonia.* *Montgomery*: "We shall, ■■■ doubt, presently hear something ■■■ of the disinterment of these mammoth ruins." *Holland*: "I have just borrowed from Mr. Stirling this number of the 'Bombay Times' newspaper, which contains ■■■ ■■■ of the transaction relative ■■■ the sculptures; and what interested ■■■ still more, ■■■ report of proceedings ■■■ laying the foundation stone of ■■■ church ■■■ Bycullah, in the Bombay Presidency, to be erected in memory of those individuals who fell during the memorable actions at Scinde and Affghanistan: you will perceive that a hymn of yours ■■■ sung during the ceremony by the scholars of the Bycullah schools." *Montgomery*: "Yes; this ■■■ the hymn I wrote many years ago, to be sung when the first stone of St. George's Church ■■■ laid in Sheffield; and it has often been used on similar occasions since. But (he added with ■■■ of surprise) this ■■■ not my hymn: the first ■■■ only is mine; the rest ■■■ original; probably of Indian growth."

February 16. Mr. Holland took tea ■■■ the Mount with Montgomery and ■■■ Galea. The poet said he had been arrested during the whole day by a perusal of that extraordinary work, Henry More's "Songe of the Soule," which he had casually taken up in the morning. "Amid much that is mystical," said he, "there ■■■ many ■■■ of great beauty, and still more that ■■■

* The conversation in the text occurred, as will be seen, previous to the appearance of Mr. Layard's "Nineveh, and its Remains," one of the most interesting works of the age, if viewed in relation to the historical importance of the discoveries recorded in its ■■■

of profound thought, in Platonic poem. I have endeavoured," he added, "to comprehend the poet's meaning, though effort sometimes that of Gulliver, when he tried to embrace with both his arms the little finger of Brobdignagian princess. Just read ;"—

"Next *Physis* the tender *Arachnes*;
There in her subtle loom *Haphe* sit;
changing *Semele*;
next *Psyche's* self: these garments fit
Her sacred limbs full well, and knit
One part other, that strongest sway
sharpest them no'te asunder smite;
The seventh is *Eon* with eternal ray;
The eighth *Atova*, steadily cube, all propping *Adonai*."

"What of hard words and hard thought has the author hammered into those lines! But you ever see such pointing in any other book? Look at this stanza, almost all the words of which linked together by hyphens:"—

"That rabble-rout that in castle now,
Is irefull-ignorance, unseemly-zeal,
Strong-self-conceit, rotten-religion,
Contentious-reproach-'gainst-Michael-
If-he-of-Moses-body-ought-reveal-
Which-their-dull-skonses cannot-eas'ly-reach,
Love-of-the-karkas; an wept appeal-
T' uncertain papyrs, False-formal-fetch
feigned-sighs, contempt-of-poorer-and-sinful-wretch."

"Old Ainsworth, in version of the Psalms, often represented Hebrew phrases in English by ligulated words in manner." *Montgomery*:
"you condemn More unread, either
roughness the pedantry of his style. I will

lend you ■ book, and I think you will ■ regret having made ■ effort to ■ it through."

With evident reluctance he exchanged ■ volume of the Platonic poet for ■ tea-cup. After tea, he produced and expatiated on the beauty of ■ shell which had been ■ ■ him by a lady, who ■ ■ "found it ■ difficult to ■ how it ■ produced by the animal which had occupied it, as she felt able ■ ■ prehend the meaning of Coleridge's 'Ancient Mariner.'"

February ■ *Holland*: "Another revolution in France! The ■ of to-day ■ strongly recal ■ your mind the ■ of ■ and '98." *Montgomery*: "Indeed it does: ■ I read the bill on the walls yonder, ■ the effect that the military had fraternised with the people,—hundreds of them slain in the streets,—tho King had abdicated,—the royal family fled,—the mob in possession ■ the palace, and throwing the furniture out of the windows; and—the provisional government of France in the hands of ■ Directory; I

■ ■ subjoined note addressed by Montgomery to his friend, ■ Rev James Knight, soon after the publication of ■ ■ alluded to, will hardly ■ deemed out of place ■ —"Among ■ earlier compositions of Coleridge ■ ■ ■ most precious things under the sun ■ the shape of verse are to be found—'The Nightingale' ■ ■ 'Love' will speak for themselves ■ ■ ■ language which either the bird or the passion can utter. But for 'The Ancient Mariner' I must say a word. do not expect to understand the whole or any part distinctly, for if you do you will be the first reader that ever did, or, on the other hand, if you be not under the spell of the enchantment from the beginning ■ the end, through all the mazes of mystery, the beauty and horror, the pathos and paradox, that, with the witchery of Northern Lights alternately lightening ■ ■ darkening, bewildering ■ ■ guiding, mark all the way,—you will be first who has had courage and constancy ■ ■ through ■ length and intricacy of ■ story, ■ escaped being delighted ■ least as much as confounded by the power of poetry that pervades it."

could hardly the [] believe [] I [] grown an old [] since I used [] listen with deep interest and no [] [] exactly similar tidings more than half a century ago." [] "The [] Louis XVI. under the guillotine occurred after you came [] reside [] Sheffield." *Montgomery*: "Yes; I perfectly well remember that on that day, December 14. 1792, I tried [] imagine, as I rode from Sheffield to Rawmarsh, the probable aspect of the [] tragedy [] [] that [] being acted [] Paris." [] "I know [] what will [] the fate of Louis Philippe, should he [] into the [] of the insurgents; yet, whatever may have been his faults [] [] and a king, [] cannot but wish him [] least safely out of the reach of popular fury." *Montgomery*: "I would do him no harm, and I am sure I wish him none; but I confess I have never [] him on account of [] cruelty [] Algeria, and his injustice [] Tahiti; [] [] nothing of the Spanish match. He waded up to the knees in blood to the throne; and [] down [] his knees, amidst the blood of [] subjects, he has retreated from it. How slowly, after all they have seen and suffered, [] the sovereigns and the people [] France learn wisdom!"

Montgomery had lent [] Mr. [] an account of [] "Life and Labours of [] Moravian Missionary in America *," a little volume which [] [] just received [] America. *Holland*: "I perceive [] Rev. [] Heckwelder [] [] [] Fulneck schoolboy, but nearly twenty years before your time: [] you hear anything of him there?" *Montgomery*: "As boys,

* [] of J. G. E. Heckwelder, by [] Rev. [] Rondthaler, Philadelphia. 1847. "Presented to J. M., by Dr. Jones, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania."

we were very [redacted] [redacted] name, his labours, and his sufferings, from the missionary narratives which were constantly read to us." *Holland*: "What [redacted] affecting [redacted] devoted missionary gives of [redacted] premeditated [redacted] deliberate murder [redacted] scalping of ninety-six persons*, most of them Indian converts, [redacted] the Moravian station of Gnadenhütten, [redacted] the Muskingum River, not by black or copper-coloured, but by [redacted] savages! I should [redacted] you would remember [redacted] arrival of tidings of this singularly tragical event?" *Montgomery*: "I do; and although only eleven years of [redacted] the time, I [redacted] never forget the solemnity of the occasion; occurring [redacted] it [redacted] the time a love-feast [redacted] held, during a 'commemoration' of the founding of the establishment at Fulneck. As far [redacted] I [redacted] recollect, the [redacted] account [redacted] in substance identical with the narrative [redacted] which you allude. As [redacted] the missionaries who happened to be [redacted] Detroit, and thus escaped with the Indian converts [redacted] that place, had recovered from their first [redacted] of horror [redacted] the sad intelligence, their [redacted] and hope returned; and assembling under the open canopy of heaven, they rehearsed the solemn Litany of [redacted] Church; wiping away their tears, [redacted] they raised their voices in the words:—'Keep [redacted] in everlasting fellowship with the church triumphant; and let us rest together in Thy presence from all our labours.' Our brethren, instead of dwelling in despondency upon the horrid massacre, [redacted] regarded the death of their friends [redacted] a release permitted by God [redacted] remove them from every earthly trouble; and Mr. Heckwelder concludes, as you perceive, [redacted] painful narrative [redacted] these words:—'Thus,

* [redacted] monument commemorative of this coldblooded massacre has been raised on the spot where it was perpetrated.

between 7th and 8th of March, 1782, a whole Indian congregation passed into eternal!" There is," added Montgomery, "another in Moravian records of a wholesale an Indian mission station; but in this the murderers were natives, and the victims and their families, who were burnt in their habitation; only escaping to the horrid and affecting story." not without that aged Christian poet recalled these stories of the sufferings of brethren "for Christ's sake," in North America, when his parents were "enduring the cross," and literally laying down their lives in the service in the West Indies.

With the seditious conduct of the "Repealers" in Ireland, and the still more unjustifiable proceedings of the "Chartists" in England, it need scarcely be that Montgomerly had no sympathy. Politically *liberal* as his opinions were, as well from conviction as from circumstances, he ever opposed violence, of whatever kind. Alluding one occasion at period a flagitious diatribe in an Irish newspaper, the poet remarked, that had he written anything in his hey-day of political zeal, containing only a tithe of the treasonable insinuations of that article, he would assuredly long since have been hanged, drawn, and quartered! *Holland*: "The monster meeting of the Chartists, held at Kennington Common last Monday [April 10.], listen to the harangue of Feargus O'Connor, have equalled in multitude the congregations used to assemble there to hear Charles Wesley preach." *Montgomerly*: "But how dissimilar the character, objects, influence of the parties!" *Holland*: "You will have seen a placard on the walls, announcing a political meeting, "

be held *Sunday* at Attercliffe Common." *Montgomery*: "Yea; it is a vile prostitution of the designation of an assembly for religious purposes, as a profanation of the sanctity of Sabbath, estimating the latter at the lowest rate. Without the aid of any individual, I can only help wishing it may rain hard enough to prevent such a meeting on that day." He then turned to a more congenial topic, — the announcement of a fac-simile reprint of the 1844 edition of the "Pilgrim's Progress," by the "Hansard Knollys' Society," from a copy belonging to Mr. Ofor. Having failed in an attempt to obtain the book in the regular way, through a bookseller, *Montgomery* appeared disposed to characterise, as selfish, the conduct of this and similar societies, because they made no provision for enabling the public to purchase any of the books printed under their auspices. *Holland* urged the fact that the rule confining the distribution of works prepared and issued by these societies to their members was not based on any selfish wish to exclude casual purchasers, but on the necessity of including such a number of subscribers as would pay the expense of producing the book. *Montgomery*: "But why not give each work to those who would buy it, or as supply copies to members of the society? This would at least look as if a wish to promote the cause of literature, rather than a desire to possess books which were otherwise to be had for money, was the object of the parties." *Holland*: "The obvious reply to your remark is the twofold certainty, that persons could purchase only such volumes as they might respectively happen to prefer, they would not often be found willing to club towards the bringing of others equally costly, as limited in demand, and, perhaps, not to their taste: hence, these societies

at ■■■■ extinguished, or rather they would ■■■■ commenced. As it is, so far from competing with the regular publishers, they confine their operations, for ■■■■ part, ■ the reproduction of such rare, or ■ multiplication of such original works, as would ■ justify ■ ordinary risk of trade circulation." ■■-
 gomery: "I dare say you are right; though I should certainly have been glad ■ have obtained ■ ■■■■
 ■■■■ edition of ■ book which, I believe, I ■ once myself solicited to edit." Holland: "I have ■ doubt about obtaining the work for you, after all that I have said in defence of the Hansard Knollys ■■ kindred societies."

On the ■■■ of May Montgomery addressed to Mr. Holland the following playful note:—

"The Mount, May 2. ■■■■"

"DEAR J. H.,

"The C.'s (he and she) have ■■■ word to ■ with us ■■ evening. We of course expect U, and ■■■ ■ glad to C U. As you understand everything, you ■■ comprehend this *αβγδ* invitation. If you do not, I shall never again believe you to be *infallible*, which your dullness here will prove ■■ I ■■ not; though faith in your qualification ■ this respect ■ the popedom is ■■ of my Protestant heresies; but I ■■ otherwise soundly orthodox in saying,

"I am your sincere friend,

"J. M."

Mr. ■■■■ accordingly went and spent the evening ■ the Mount. Montgomery said but little, appearing ■■ disposed ■ listen to the conversation than take part in it. He was interested in certain anecdotes of ■■ pulpit ■■ other peculiarities of the worthy bishop of Calcutta (Dr. Wilson), which ■■ Congreve ■■ tioned as having ■■ under ■■ ■■ cognisance;

including ■■ instance in which the ■■■■ dignitary, with a rather undignified freedom, ■■ ■■ close of ■■■■ pointed out and named several respectable merchants in his congregation, particularising the ■■■■ they would no doubt give, along with himself ■■■■ the Hon. E. I. Company, towards the object ■■■■ which he ■■■■ pleading, namely, the liquidation of a debt on a beautiful ■■■■ church, recently built ■■■■ Calcutta! The other ■■■■ mentioned ■■■■ if possible, a ■■■■ direct application of the *argumentum ■■■■ hominem*: the bishop ■■■■ preaching in the old church of Calcutta, when, having occasion to allude to that propensity ■■■■ "overreach" which characterises almost all classes, ■■■■ pointed ■■■■ clergyman in the desk below him, and said, "Now, there's ———; he's a regular screw, for he sold me a horse the other day for twice ■■■■ many rupees as it ■■■■ worth." And yet this somewhat startling appeal had no ill effect upon either party; "for," added the narrator, "they ■■■■ often seen riding together ■■■■ the corso, in a carriage drawn probably by the very horse in question; and almost ■■■■ ■■■■ it to hear the remark made, quite good-naturedly, 'there ■■■■ ■■■■ bishop and his screw!'" *Holland*: "I met the other day with a most intelligent and gentlemanly native African trader from Cape Coast Castle." *Montgomery*: "Was he ■■■■ of Mr. Freeman's converts?" *Holland*: "I believe he was one of a number of educated blacks who first invited the missionary ■■■■ the ■■■■ Coast, himself becoming the Proto-Wesleyan local preacher among the Ashantees; and two natives ■■■■ which country, princes ■■■■ they ■■■■ called, he conducted ■■■■ England some few ■■■■ back." *Montgomery*: "■■■ ■■■■ know Governor and Mrs. M'Lean?" *Holland*: "He knew them both very well; having been long connected with ■■■■ Castle; while the person

who became [redacted] was [redacted] attendant on [redacted] poetess [redacted] the time [redacted] her sudden [redacted] somewhat mysterious death. He [redacted] also quite [redacted] with the [redacted] which [redacted] reached Europe in connection with this melancholy event; and equally confident [redacted] he that there never existed the slightest ground for doubting that the dose of prussic acid [redacted] which the lamented lady, — [redacted] the admired "L. E. L.," — owed her death, was [redacted] entirely by accident. From [redacted] remark which he made indicative of his observance of aerial phenomena in the [redacted] of his voyage, I asked him whether [redacted] [redacted] ever witnessed rainbows [redacted] sea? He replied that he had seen some beautiful ones, in [redacted] latitude which he mentioned." *Montgomery*: "I [redacted] glad to find that you are at last brought to believe they [redacted] be [redacted] seen." *Holland*: "I [redacted] not [redacted] much express anything like [redacted] doubt [redacted] to whether [redacted] a rainbow could [redacted] [redacted] above, [redacted] reflected in, the ocean, [redacted] my surprise that I had never read in any book of voyages of such [redacted] meeting of *Iris* and *Thetis* in the domain of Neptune." *Montgomery*: "Well; and did he see a reflection of the bow in the water?" *Holland*: "No; but that, he said, [redacted] not [redacted] be expected; partly in consequence of the distance [redacted] which the rainbows [redacted] seen, whether in the van or the rear of [redacted] a storm; and partly also on account of the slight elevation of [redacted] a person on deck above the level of the sea, which was also [redacted] usually much agitated [redacted] the time; otherwise, there could, he said, be no doubt but [redacted] reversed [redacted] reflected arch might have been as distinctly [redacted] [redacted] the mirrored images of the [redacted] clouds were [redacted] times. However, I requested the black philosopher, should he happen [redacted] pick up [redacted] a circular rainbow on his voyage back [redacted] Africa, [redacted] [redacted] it in a letter and address it [redacted] me, [redacted] whom [redacted] would be more acceptable [redacted] a dying dol-

phin." * Looking out of the drawing-room window at Mount, the eyes of the visitors rested on the New Cemetery on the opposite hill, where, that afternoon, a hymn †, composed by Montgomery, had been sung, on laying the first stone of an elegant little church, which none of the party then assembled foresaw would, in the course of a few years, fling a shadow on the poet's grave! Some one of the party mentioned that, among the clergy assembled at this ceremony, was a minister of the Independent denomination, who delivered a somewhat remarkable sermon at, what he termed, the "Funeral of Bigotry." *Montgomery*: "I heard that speech, and have heard others in the same strain; for, alas! bigotry has often been buried, but yet found dead." The intended consecration of the New Cemetery was mentioned. *Montgomery*: "My mother was buried in unconsecrated ground, being refused, as a heretic, a grave in the Roman Catholic chapel yard at Tortola; she was therefore

* These remarks had reference to a previous conversation, in which *Montgomery*, while he admitted that he had never actually witnessed a rainbow at sea, contended reasonably enough for the meteorological as well as the poetical propriety of the following beautiful description in the 'Pelican':—

"The evening sun broke through the embattled clouds,
And threw round sky and sea, as by enchantment,
A radiant girdle, binding them to peace,
In the full rainbow's harmony of beams;
A fragment, but one sevenfold circle,
Spann'd the horizon, meted out the heavens,
And undersarch'd the ocean." *Pel. Island, C. I.*

It is strange neither the poet nor his friend, when engaged on this subject, should have recollected the notices of lunar and solar rainbows which occur in the account of Bennet and Tyerman's Voyages; or the description in Byron's "Don Juan," canto ii. stanza 91., &c.

† "We plan foundations for the dead," &c. — *Original Hymns, CCCH.*

in a ~~corner~~ of the garden connected with the residence of the Moravian Missionary; her dust ~~was~~ sufficiently hallowed the spot, which ~~will~~ me ~~be~~ ~~ever~~ sacred to her memory."

May 21. Montgomery presided, as usual, at the anniversary meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Association in ~~1841~~. He appeared in good spirits, and instead of his wonted apology for personal feebleness and lack of service, proceeded ~~to~~ ~~make~~ ~~some~~ general remarks. In the annals of time, he said, "a single brief period of forty days ~~was~~ distinguished from every other portion of the past, and would, unless Christ ~~should~~ hereafter appear on earth in millennial glory, continue ~~to~~ distinguished from the future of this world's history by ~~its~~ marvellous peculiarity." He alluded, he said, to the "intercourse which ~~our~~ Saviour continued ~~to~~ hold with ~~his~~ disciples in the interval between ~~his~~ resurrection from the dead and his ascension into heaven. During ~~his~~ previous sojourn in the flesh ~~his~~ whole conduct, his doctrines, his miracles, his promises, and, more than all, ~~his~~ death upon the cross, appeared ~~to~~ his intimate and faithful followers, ~~nothing~~ ~~but~~ a sublime apologue, ~~and~~ to speak, of which they evidently understood ~~not~~ the full meaning till after the resurrection. But during the forty days that he continued on earth in his glorified humanity, his leading design seems ~~to~~ have been—commencing with the conversation with the favoured twain on their way to Emmaus—to expound to ~~his~~ disciples ~~fully~~ the necessity ~~of~~ sufferings, the spiritual nature of ~~the~~ kingdom, and especially to prepare them, by the satisfactory evidence in ~~his~~ own person, to ~~others~~ the glorious doctrine of the resurrection previous ~~to~~ taking his final leave of them, and sending them forth ~~as~~ 'witnesses of these things'—to 'preach ~~the~~

penitance ■■■ remission of sins, in ■■■ name, ■■■ all nations, beginning ■■■ Jerusalem.' " The speaker had meant, from this, ■■■ have insisted ■■■ the singular appropriateness of the Rogation season, ■■■ that ■■■ which Christians might ■■■ —and ■■■ that evening they were met—to consider and carry out the last command of their divine Master, in sending the gospel into ■■■ the world. By ■■■ lapse of memory, however, he omitted entirely this application of the subject. Speaking of this meeting afterwards to Mr. Holland, Montgomery adverted ■■■ the absence of everything like buffoonery in the remarks of the speakers on the platform, ■■■ evil, the occurrence of which he often deplored. *Holland*: "There ■■■ one exception in the reference to Ireland." *Montgomery*: "I ■■■ what you mean,—the Kilkenny cats. That story ■■■ often alluded to, and I think it ■■■ always misunderstood, and almost ■■■ often misapplied. I have ■■■ opinion on the subject, and being somewhat of an Irishman myself, am entitled to be heard in this matter. My version is this,—that the two ■■■ quarrelled, and in their rage bit one another's tails off, leaving ■■■ ■■■ the field of battle." *Holland*: "Your emendation ■■■ ■■■ gets quit of the *bull*, and spoils the *joke*: I shall therefore retain the old reading, viz., that the ■■■ fought until they had devoured *each other bodily — except their tails!*" *Montgomery*: "Do ■■■ you like; but I believe mine is the true narrative."

May ■■■ ■■■ Holland went up to the Mount, taking with him the handsome reprint of the first edition of the "Pilgrim's Progress," issued by the "Hansard Knollys' Society," with a long and interesting "Introduction" by George Offor. Montgomery had, ■■■ already stated, been very anxious ■■■ ■■■ this work; and now, ■■■ ■■■ he ■■■ get ■■■ contents, that he ■■■ open ■■■ leaves during ■■■ ■■■ of tea-drinking, rapidly

glancing ■ and praising the quaint wood-cuts, while he dipped into the ■■■ many ■ expression of joy ■■ the ■■■ Tinker ■■ found, as he deserved ■ find, in addition to all ■ previous honours, ■ able ■■ zealous a commentator. In a few days ■ returned the book; and Mr. Holland then perused it. *Montgomery*: "I have read every word of this volume with deep interest. Mr. Offer has been indefatigable in his collection and description of ■■ the works from any one of which it ■■ possible Bunyan might have derived ■ hint of the character and conduct of his celebrated 'Pilgrim;' but, notwithstanding all that has been ■■ asserted or insinuated ■ the contrary, it ■■ that the more the oft-mooted question of imitation, or ■■ resemblance, is fairly examined, the ■■ strong and indisputable do Bunyan's claims to originality appear. The worthy editor has certainly done good service in ■■ good cause." *Holland*: "I think so too: and the pleasure with which ■ have read his remarks has only been dashed by perceiving that he should so often have exhibited in them something like that 'anabaptist bitterness' which ■■ formerly imputed to members of his ■■ when engaged in polemical disputes." *Montgomery*: "I, too, wish he had spared certain ■■ expressions: but despite ■■ that, I ■■ pleased with his gallant championship of Bunyan, whom he appears ■■ love with all ■■ heart; and I ■■ thankful for the ■■ light he has thrown upon the history of the 'Pilgrim's Progress,' and ■■ author, especially by the description and collation of so many early editions of the work. Many of ■■ alterations in these are very striking, ■■ when ■■ extensive. It ■■ curious enough to find, among the more important additions successively made by Bunyan during the republications of the work in ■■ lifetime, ■■ the character of *Mrs. Diffidence*, with which every

reader now so familiar, was originally introduced in the second edition, *Giant Despair* having, it been a bachelor in the first. I recollect often wondering, when a boy, why it was that the giant always the of the Pilgrims There several other insertions of importance, in the instance of *Mr. Worldly-wise-man*, and particularly the long interview between *Bye-ends* his pany, which, excellent it is in matter, and interesting episode, always appeared to me after-thought of the author, tending, as it does, rather to interrupt than advance the progress of the story." "You will, doubt, recollect that Mr. Dunlop, when speaking of the 'Pilgrim's Progress' in 'History of Fiction,' intimates that it ill judged in the author to represent *Christian* having a wife and family, 'since,' he adds, 'whatever be the spiritual lesson intended be conveyed by leaving them, one cannot help being impressed with a certain notion of hard-heartedness in the hero.'" *Montgomery*: "Bunyan understood the duties and difficulties of Christian discipleship better than Dunlop. has not represented the trial harder in his allegory than it has been found to be in reality by thousands who, neither monks nor bachelors, have nevertheless obeyed Lord's comprehensive injunction: 'If any me, and hate not his father, mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters; yea, and his also, he cannot be my disciple.'"* *Holland*: "Whatever may have been Mr. Dunlop's opinion of the practical realisation of such entire self-sacrifice of every social tie which might impede Christian in his heavenward as the words of Christ

are understood to imply, of which the history of this section of the Church furnishes examples, he is, perhaps, the only individual who, capable of appreciating the merits of a fictitious narrative, has found in Bunyan's 'Pilgrim' 'a negative character, without good quality to recommend him.'**

Montgomery: "Even Lucian of Samosata, heathen as he was, almost recognises the bearing of the Scripture rule, if, indeed, he had heard of it; for he says in 'Pilgrim,' Hermotimus, 'that if he would reach the City of Virtue, whither he was anxious to proceed, he ought not to be here detained either by affection for his country, or by the entreaties of his children and relations; those he must exhort to go along with him, whom, if he finds either incapable or unwilling, he must shake them off, and himself to that seat of perfect happiness; nay, though they caught hold of his cloak, he must leave it, and break from them.' The spirit of this passage is not only singularly in unison with that portion of the 'Pilgrim's Progress' which is repudiated by Mr. Dunlop, but with the admonition of our Saviour himself in the New Testament."†

June 1st. *Montgomery*: "I do not like to miss going to church on Ascension Day, because, apart from the profit of the regular service, it is the only occasion when we are gathered with the clergy and members of different congregations in the same place of worship. This was the case also on the Sacrament to-day." *Holland*: "I have often wished — vain as the wish may appear — that different denominations of orthodox Christians

* Hist. Fiction, ch. ix.

† In Southey's "Common-Place Book," Series, p. 377., the passage is copied at length from Lucian, under the head, "Anticipation of Bunyan."

could [redacted] Holy Thursday, [redacted] other day in the year, [redacted] one congregation, merely [redacted] worship God in the [redacted] of their common Saviour. [redacted] might even now be accomplished, if the [redacted] would only [redacted] parish church [redacted] a year, [redacted] I think [redacted] of them might do without any particular impropriety. *That*, in my humble opinion, would form [redacted] nucleus of a real 'Evangelical Alliance;' [redacted] would not be a [redacted] polemical organisation, a league, offensive and [redacted] with reference [redacted] other [redacted] and parties, but [redacted] actual and Scriptural approach towards that evangelical charity, that oneness in Christ, for [redacted] Church [redacted] constantly prays." *Montgomery*: "You are quite right; such a consummation of the hope of sincere Christians, such a day of *All Saints*, I should like to [redacted] Let you and me, at least, be careful not to encourage bigotry either by precept [redacted] example."

CHAP. CII.

DEATH OF SAMUEL ROBERTS.—MONTGOMERY'S REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT.—FUNERAL IN AUSTON.—CONVERSATION.—ORANGE'S "SUGAR CANN."—BAPTIST — FOX'S JOURNAL.—REGNO — "MILNER'S GUIDE."—EXTINCTION OF THE "IRIS." — OF THE "MERCURY."—CONVERSATION.—LIFE OF ADAM.— CHURCH — OF — SOCIETY.—AURORA BOREALIS.—THE CHURCH SCULPTOR.—MEMOIR

ON July 24th Samuel Roberts, Esq., in the eighty-sixth year of his age,—a gentleman whose has often occurred in these pages — one of the oldest and intimate friends of Montgomery,—died at his residence, Park Grange, near Sheffield. On the following day Mr. Holland received from the poet the subjoined letter, in reference to the bearing of that upon a visit which the two friends had agreed to pay together to the president of the Literary and Philosophical Society, with other of the members:—

Montgomery to John

"The Mount, July 25

MY FRIEND,

"I have just received melancholy intelligence, my living friend, certainly one of my esteemed, removed of the world last night about o'clock. I need another word, nor apologise for this brevity on a subject which fills my heart with thoughts feelings

suggestions of the past, the present, and the future, which accompany me to the last step of my journey on my path from this world to the next, whereon three of my fellow-pilgrims have now finished their journey, leaving me a solitary unit, one of "four friends." I should be troubled you now, I request favour, to yourself, who are so prompt to do such things to me, namely, you will call upon me to-morrow, as we had arranged, to escort me to Field Head. I am utterly unfit to enjoy the hospitality of Mr. Solly or otherwise pleasant company or conversation of my guests. I am much exercised in my mind by personal and family trials, and under a pledge which I dare not in my conscience evade, though I would gladly, like Jonah, flee from a call, I believe from the Lord, to attend a Meeting in behalf of the Brethren's Missions, at Doncaster, under the special countenance of the Rev. C. R. Alford (the vicar, I believe, if I am mistaken, the poet*), Monday next. This has thrown me into "tremblingly-alive" agitation. Public meetings are a terror to me; and I avoid as many as I can, at home or abroad: indeed, for the last two or three years I have absolutely declined the latter. Till, therefore, this cross has been borne to the end, I have no heart to lay me down, I choose rather to lie under it, and lie in the dust of humiliation, where it is good for me to be, how excruciating it may prove to me and blood, so that my spirit be wounded by conscious and cowardly neglect of duty. You will not, therefore, refuse me your service, to apologise to me to Mr. S., nor withhold your forgiveness from me for the present intrusion of your much obliged friend,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"John

Two days afterward, the poet addressed to the same friend the following letter:—

* He was mistaken: Mr. Alford was not vicar of Doncaster; nor was he the "poet" of that name.

Montgomery

"The Mount, July

DEAR FRIEND,

"The foregoing" is a copy of what I have submitted to the 'Times' and 'Independent' editors, submitting either adopt it or furnish an original article on the subject themselves. Of course, you will say any or none, of what I have written. I could not get into my friend's course of life; I am one of whom could not be said, if anything attempted. *Four-and-twenty years ago*, towards the close of 'Pell-Island,' I said,—

"The world grows darker, lonelier, and more silent,
As I go down into the vale of years."

"You will understand me better *four-and-twenty years hence*, and find out there is something to a living

"Died Grange, on Monday, aged years, Roberts, Esq., of whom, during a long life, it may be said, that whatever his hand, his head, or his heart found to do, he did it with his might, in the promotion of national, local, or peculiar means of serving his generation, according to his views of the will of God. He was, indeed, conscientiously in pursuit of such objects, that neither the fear nor the favour of man seemed ever to deter or divert him from that which he believed to be his duty. In this respect, his zeal, energy, and perseverance were exemplary to all, and surpassed by none of his contemporaries; those who were occasionally opposed to him in judgment being withstood. His talents, as a very miscellaneous writer, in verse and prose, were far above mediocrity, and under other circumstances might have raised him to no mean rank in the annals of his country's literature. He was honoured, esteemed, and beloved in proportion as his character was more or less intimately understood." This notice of the character of his friend, from the pen of Montgomery, appeared in all the Sheffield newspapers; it was accompanied by the "Mercury," by an extended Memoir, written by Mr. Holland, who was well acquainted with Mr. Roberts.

man [redacted] darkness, [redacted] lonely [redacted] loneliness, more [redacted] [redacted] silence. What is that? [redacted] [redacted] in our eye, [redacted] [redacted] and our mind, which the presence of a friend [redacted] filled, [redacted] which imagination [redacted] [redacted] now fill. Infinite space, invisible, inaudible, dimensionless, [redacted] not [redacted] inapprehensible [redacted] that remembered range [redacted] which, [redacted] [redacted] he lived, moved, [redacted] [redacted] being. [redacted] from [redacted] body,' is a far [redacted] separation from that which the earth's diameter interposes between two breathing conscious beings, *each present [redacted] himself* and contemporary with the other, but [redacted] utterly beyond personal communication as [redacted] living with the dead, [redacted] the [redacted] in [redacted] dust, [redacted] resting [redacted] [redacted] bed, side by side. [redacted] [redacted] rhapsodise any more. We two yet can meet and part; and how [redacted] of [redacted] acting and suffering [redacted] [redacted] monosyllables comprehend! I have only [redacted] to add; and [redacted] [redacted]

"I am, very sincerely, your *Friend*,

"JAMES [redacted]

"Mr. [redacted] Holland, [redacted]

On the [redacted] Mr. Roberts [redacted] interred [redacted] Church-Anston. Montgomery attended the funeral—a sincere [redacted] well [redacted] a ceremonial mourner; his feelings, after reaching home, being embodied in the following lines:—

"We will remember thee in love:

Thy [redacted] [redacted] run—thy work is done;

Now rest in peace,

Where sin, and toil, and suffering [redacted];

Meanwhile, in hope to meet above,

When these with us no more shall be,

In love we will remember thee."

On opening the will of the deceased, although it did not comprise any formal testamentary bequest to any of his friends, it contained a pencilled memorandum [redacted] the effect, that the executor (Samuel Roberts, Jun.)

should give _____ memento _____ late father's _____
 _____ post; _____ which, we happen _____ know, _____
 _____ less cheerfully than liberally _____ promptly _____
 by the present of one hundred guineas.

Mr. Holland mentioned that he had been importuned
 by a good man _____ him in obtaining Montgomery's
 signature to _____ petition _____ place in the Shrewsbury
 Hospital. *Montgomery*: "It would _____ him,
 though _____ Duke of Norfolk _____ pleased _____ admit my
 old neighbour, Mr. Batty, the silversmith, on my direct
 recommendation. I went up to _____ Billy the other
 day. With him I have _____ miles in the
 neighbourhood of _____ than with any other per-
 son." *Holland*: "I am surprised to hear you say so;
 _____ I should have thought you had neither sentiments
 _____ feelings in common." *Montgomery*: "Exactly
 _____ of poetry he knew nothing, and cared as little:
 his conversation _____ almost entirely about mechanics,
 of which I knew nothing, and especially about the
 steam-engine, which _____ then coming into _____ in
 Sheffield, and the future triumphs of which he _____
 sanguine in anticipating. One thing _____ had in _____
 _____ Billy Batty _____ fond of walking—so _____ I:
 besides, he _____ tired of talking on his favourite
 topics, and I was a *good listener*; _____ got on very
 well together."

Sept. _____ Mr. Holland at the Mount. Montgomery
 came in, greatly fatigued with his short walk, and
 threw himself _____ the sofa:—"Have you brought
 Nichols * with you?" *Holland*: "Yes, sir." *Mont-*
gomery: "In the previous volume _____ found _____ copy of
 Dryden's 'Ode for St. Cecilia's Day,' *improved* and
filled _____ by some person of the name of Turner, _____

think: pray, when you have an hour read it." *Holland*: "I am acquainted with it: the Rev. Baptist Turner one of my 'Psalmists,' and, from the memoir of him, a very worthy clergyman." *Montgomery*: "So he might have been: but ought not have tacked his Dryden's: it is like stitching a piece of the into which the stuff called *devil's dust* has been woven, upon a garment made of best superfine cloth!" *land*: "You will find in this volume a good deal about Grainger, the poet of the 'Sugar Cane.'" *Montgomery*: "It is precisely on that account I wanted the book. Grainger yoked with Goldsmith in Griffiths' dung-cart a literary hack; and I want to know a little about him than is told in the Memoir prefixed to my copy of his poems." *Holland*: "I have lately gone over his 'Sugar Cane,' which contains some striking descriptions of West Indian scenery. My object was to ascertain whether not he anywhere denounces Negro slavery; but I perceive the utmost he ventures upon in that direction is to advise kindly treatment." * *Montgomery*:

* Grainger's poem of "The Sugar Cane," anticipates, in many the scenery of "The West Indies," Montgomery's popular theme; but what a difference between the two poets in their treatment of slavery! The elder bard does, indeed, say that, during the cane-harvest, there is no need that

"The driver, *Æthiop* authorised,
Thence more inhuman, crack his horrid whip;"

but still the subject never prompts one aspiration, one wish, the emancipation of the sufferers, excites no apostrophe of regret for their helpless condition: no, the crack of the lash is heard, and

"From such dire sounds th' indignant muse averts
Her virgin ear."

if the poet of "The Sugar Cane" nowhere records a single

"No; ■■■ of abolition was ■■■ likely ■ enter his mind ■ that time, identified, as he ■■■ with the system itself in the island of St. Christophers. Yet he ■■■ lack spirit, ■ you will perceive from ■ letter ■ Mr. Burt, his wife's brother." He would have Mr. Holland read the letter aloud ■■■ Gales, while he evidently himself enjoyed the ■■■ of it. The engraved portrait of Dr. Percy ■■■ to ■■■ remarks on ■■■ services to poetry ■ a collector, and on his own performances in verse. Montgomery praised his song of "O Nancy, wilt thou go with me?" adding, ■■■ the metrical tale —

"It ■■■ a friar of orders gray,
Walk'd forth to tell his beads," &c.

suggested the idea of making "The Wanderer of Switzerland" ■■■ the story of his own sufferings. Something ■■■ said about the Hansard Knollys' Society. *Montgomery*: "I have read with intense interest their volume of 'Records' of the Baptist congregation ■ Broadmead, Bristol. What sufferings did those good people endure at the hands of their merciless

slaves for the ■■■ of that slavery with which he was more than poetically familiar, he does advise the planter to tighten ■■■ yoke of oppression where it would often be most galling: —

"Compel by threats, or win by soothing arts,
Thy slaves to wed their fellow-slaves ■ home;
So shall they not their vigorous prime destroy,
By distant journeys at untimely hours."^a

And yet the poet was not insensible to the evils of slavery, as he says ■ one of his letters to Dr. Percy, — "Wherever slavery obtains, tyranny, insolence, impetuosity (not to mention other vices), must ever bear sway."^b

^a "Sugar Cane," book iv., lines 606-9.

^b *Nich. Illustr. Lit. Hist.* vol. vii. p. 281.

persecutors—not heathens, even papists, but men professing and calling themselves Christians—Protestants and Churchmen! The narrative sometimes reminded of the story of the cruel of our brethren in Bohemia. There is something exceedingly painful in reading the many recorded instances of the personal activity of the bishop and clergy of Bristol and their informers, while they harassed by spoliation, stripes, imprisonment, and death itself, a handful of poor men and women, who only sought allowed to and worship God according the dictates of their consciences, and conformably with what they believed be the Scriptural rule of Church order." *Holland*: "I have read the book myself, and feel thankful to the who, by their patient endurance of such cruel wrong for what they believed to be the of truth, formed part of a noble band of confessors who laid the foundation of that Christian liberty which all parties largely enjoy this day. At the time equally remarkable and deplorable is the fact that these very Baptists in their turn among the persecutors of the Quakers, who shared with them that full of hatred which, in the middle of the seventeenth century, appeared always ready to be poured out by at least one religious party the head of another. George Fox, in his very curious Journal, mentions instances of persecutions from that quarter; a fact the striking in with assertion in the 'Hansard Knollys' Circular,' to the effect that 'to the Baptists belongs the honour of first asserting in this land, and establishing on the immutable of just argument and Scripture rule, the right of every to worship God as conscience dictates, in subordination only to divine command.'" *Montgomery*: "I should really like to see George Fox's Journal; it

never fall ■ my way, as I ■ you before, though I have often, of course, ■ references to, and ■ it. I ■ confess I know ■ how ■ justify the practice of the early Quakers in going into churches and insisting upon speaking there." *Holland*: "You will probably find ■ other things still ■ ■ justify in their conduct." *Montgomery*: "And what ■ curious entry is this in the old Broadmead church-book, concerning ■ converted negress—the ■ when you recollect the early connection of Bristol with the slave trade:—'While they (the long and bitterly persecuted congregation) thus (anno 1618) walked with Mr. Ingello, their teacher, they had ■ memorable member added unto them, namely, ■ black- ■ maid named Frances, a servant to one that lived upon the back of Bristol,—which thing is somewhat ■ in our days, to have an Ethiopian, or blackamoor, ■ be truly convinced of sin, and of their lost ■ without the Redeemer, and to be truly converted ■ the Lord Jesus Christ, ■ she was.'"*Holland*: "The novel circumstance in *that day*, of ■ blackamoor ■ becoming a member of ■ Christian church, seems, however, ■ have been recorded by the Baptist annalist with more complacency and less surprise than ■ experienced, two centuries afterwards, by ■ congregation in New York, when ■ Rev. Dr. Mason, in spite of the strong repug- ■ and deep-rooted prejudice of the bulk of his flock, ■ to the communion his sable convert 'Katy Ferguson.'"*Montgomery*: "I ■ curious old books the other day at ■ William Younge's ■ Endcliffe. I borrowed this little volume for you ■ look

* *Harvard Knollys' Society Volumes*, No. 2. p. 35.

† "In whose house," according to Mrs. Duncan ("America as I found it"), "was ■ the first sabbath school in New York, and in which, for forty years, she held ■ weekly prayer meeting."

at: it ■■■ printed ■■ Sheffield, by ■ person whose ■■■ I never heard of before* ; and it contains ■■■ with which, ■■ doubt, the Derbyshire ■■■ miners of ■ century back were duly edified, whatever ■■ may be. But ■ was most interested with a Roman manumission plate, found in ■■ neighbour- ■■■ in 1761, which Mr. Younge showed me.† It ■■■ exceedingly friable; but ■■■ ■ surprised ■■■ such ■■■ of engraved copper in existence ■■ all, ■■■ being buried in the ground for so long ■ time. I believe ■ duplicate plate ■■ found with it." *Holland:* "Mr. Younge consulted me about permitting this rare memorial to be exhibited before the archæological meeting at York last year. I persuaded him by ■■■ ■■■ to send it there, but to address it to the ■■■ of Mr. Hunter, and afterwards to present it to the British Museum. He agreed to take the first part of my advice, but shook his head ■■ the rest. The duplicate plate has long since perished."

* "The Miner's Guide," printed at Sheffield, in 1748, by Francis Lister. But the ■■■ curious part of the book ■■■ ■■■■ "The Liberties and Customs ■■ the Lead Mines within the wapentake of Wirksworth, in ■■ county of Derby, composed ■■■ by ■■■ ward Manlove, Esq, heretofore Steward of the Barmote Court," &c. &c.

"For stealing ore twice from the minery,
The thief that's taken twice, shall fined be;
But the third time that he commit such theft,
■■■ have a knife stuck through his hand with ■■■
Into the ■■■ (windlaw), ■■■ there till ■■■ stand,
Or loose himself, by cutting loose his hand;
And shall forswear the franchising of the mine,
And always lose ■■ freedom from ■■ time.
But many words of art you still may seek,
The miner's terms are like to heathen Greek;
Both strange and uncouth; if you them would see,
Read these rough verses here composed by me."

† Hunter's "Hullamshire," ■■■ ■■■

At the end of September the "Iris," which was established by Montgomery in 1794, was at one time the only newspaper published in Sheffield, entirely ceased to exist.* A sketch of the history and vicissitudes of the defunct journal appeared in the "Sheffield Independent."† The article was written in a kindly tone, and, with the exception of a single paragraph, was gratifying to Montgomery's feelings. The exception involved a mistake on the part of the writer when speaking of the departure of Mr. Gales from Sheffield in 1794, under the circumstances already detailed. It elicited the following letter:—

James Montgomery to the Editor of the Sheffield Independent.

"The Mount, October 3. 1848.

"Sir,

"In your memoir of my life, transmigrations, &c. of my 'Sheffield Iris,' you record a 'tradition' (as

* A bi-weekly paper under my title was published on the abolition of the stamp duty in 1854.

† After alluding to the period when the "Iris" was "rapidly gaining more than a national fame," the editor of the "Independent" added, "The benignant star of Montgomery had then shined in the literary world. It shed a light upon Sheffield; but most of all it illuminated the 'Iris.' Just twenty-three years have elapsed since Mr. Montgomery relinquished his pecuniary and editorial connexion with the paper. Yet it has retained, in spite of time and change, some hold upon the affections of all who have done anything more than vegetate in the forty or fifty years among us. The 'Sheffield Iris' has been one of those peculiarly Sheffield things for which the men of Sheffield have had an instinctive regard. It has been felt to belong to the town, just as surely as the old church, or the River Dun, and he who could be again what he was twenty years ago, would just as soon expect the church to be entombed among the men's bones that lie in it, as the river to find a subterranean channel at Wadsley, and leave its old course dry, as the 'Iris' should cease to appear on Tuesday." — *Sheffield Independent*, Sept. 30. 1848.

true as anything — be which never came to pass), that 1794, under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, when various arrests were made in Sheffield after the commitment of Hardy, Tooka, — to — Tower — charges — high treason, — that of Mr. — ‘so — his escape, — the constables entered — door, while — fled, half-dressed, from the other.’ The — is, — Mr. Gales, on the previous day, had gone to Derby, on *some family affairs*, without any personal apprehension — safety — time. When the King’s — from London, and a resident sheriff’s officer, called — enquire for him, Mrs. — informed them of her husband’s absence, and quietly led them herself all over the premises. Having satisfied themselves that — was — there, they as quietly departed. — Mr. Gales — home, I — convinced that he would not, of his — accord, have attempted to avoid — unwelcome visitors; for, when informed of the intrusion, — the distant place where he happened — be, it required all the violence of — affection — persuasion, to induce — take refuge elsewhere. He was a man of whom his — need never fear to — the real truth; and I only trouble you with — information that you may — warranted — correct an utterly erroneous report, which I do — recollect myself to have — before. It probably was founded upon a very singular — which another individual (comparatively a stranger in Sheffield, having resided here a few weeks only) experienced. On the evening of the same day with the — of Broomhead, Camage, &c., two of the — constables entered a well-known public-house suddenly, — bolting into the company room, crowded — ale-bibbers — smokers, — they asked if D — was there. He *was*; — person who sat next to him, with a presence of mind — promptitude of impudence rarely exemplified, — answered, ‘No; — went off to Leeds this morning.’ They took — word — their departure — promptly. The object of their search was from Leeds. He afterwards escaped to America, where he became a store-keeper and justice of — peace.

"There is no other ~~inaccuracy~~ inaccuracy in your narrative. Accept my ~~thanks~~ thanks for the ~~trouble~~ trouble you have shown to myself.

"I ~~am~~ truly, your ~~affectionate~~ servant,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"~~Editor~~ Leader, Esq."

An event in the history of the Sheffield newspaper press, far ~~less~~ expected than the extinction of the "Iris," almost immediately succeeded: this ~~was~~ the absorption of the "Sheffield Mercury" by its youngest local rival and contemporary. During the fifteen years that ~~Mr.~~ Holland ~~has~~ been identified with the editorship of the last-named journal, its weekly publication became ~~one~~ of the most constant and convenient symbols of intercourse between the biographer and his affectionate personal friend. Every Saturday afternoon Mr. Holland took care to be found in his room at the Music Hall, because at four o'clock, to a minute, the beloved and venerable bard uniformly made his appearance, gliding down the passage ~~as~~ quietly ~~as~~ a ghost; and after sitting and chatting for half an hour, carried off with him the ~~paper~~ paper.

Oct. 14. *Montgomery*: "And so this is the last "Sheffield Mercury" we ~~are~~ to have — and you ~~are~~ no longer 'Mr. Editor:' I confess I am sorry on every account; unless it be true, ~~as~~ I have heard, that ~~Mr.~~ Ridge has parted with his paper for an assured annuity of ~~£100~~ *per annum*; for if so, I ought, ~~at~~ least, ~~to~~ be glad for his sake." *Holland*: "Thus it is that the 'march of intellect' leaves behind first one, and then another, in succession: its hard hoof, which, ~~as~~ you ~~have~~ intimated, trampled on you ~~as~~ sternly nearly thirty years ago, ~~has~~ trodden me down." *Montgomery*: "You ~~are~~ up ~~on~~ the Mount, and let ~~me~~ talk

changes; I am anxious to see what you say in the 'Mercury' on parting with your readers."

The Mount, Oct. 17. *Holland*: "I have brought, for your perusal, the Life of Keats, by Monckton Milnes." *Montgomery*: "I am glad of it, though I feel loth just now to be drawn away from a very interesting subject—the journal of the Founder of the Quakers—an extraordinary book, which I wonder I never read before. I understand the religion of George Fox better than the poetry of Bysshe Shelley and John Keats; at least, I think the first more interesting. Members of the Society of Friends—their honour be it spoken—were among the earliest advocates for the emancipation of slaves." *Holland*: "Yes; but it is curious to perceive that, among them, the principle, in its practical application at least, was one of growth; for you will find George Fox, on his visit to the West Indies, in 1671, telling the planters that, with respect to their 'negroes and blacks, they should endeavour to train them up in the fear of God; as well them that were bought with their money, as them that were born in their families, that all might come to the knowledge of the Lord. I desired them also,' he adds, 'that they would direct their servants to deal mildly and gently with their negroes, and not use cruelty towards them, as the manner of us hath been, and is; and that after certain years of servitude they would make them free.' I do not know how this thing strikes you, but it appears to me a good deal of the reproach which, in connection with current reports of the growth and atrocities of the slave trade as now clandestinely carried on, so constantly find to be laid upon the party who paid the twenty millions of British money for emancipation, originated with those who are at best but half-hearted

Abolitionists themselves." *Montgomery*: "I am afraid there is much truth in your remark. One does always catch an idea at a public meeting; but there is something of novelty in an anecdote by one of the speakers at the Wesleyan Missionary Meeting Monday night:—Two British sailors engaged in assisting the debarkation of a cargo of negroes from a captured slaver; seeing the shocking condition of the poor creatures as they were brought up, and the sinister looks of the captain, who was thus disappointed of his prey—'Jack,' exclaimed one of the sailors to his companion, 'the devil will be sure to have that fellow.' 'Dost thou really think so?' was the reply of his shipmate. 'To be sure he will; or else what's the chance of having a devil?' This story," proceeded Montgomery, "reminded me of one which I heard after I was at Sheffield; there appeared in one of the meetings of the *Jacobins*, as they were at that time called, an elderly man of the name of Gibbs; he was regarded, and I doubt correctly, by Mr. [] and others, as a Government spy, for he had played that part in America during the War of Independence. Franklin, who knew him, is said to have exclaimed, 'If God had not made a hell, he ought to make one for the punishment of such miscreants as Gibbs!' This observation was somewhat of profanity; but it is remarkable that the philosophic statesman and the rude sailor were alike horrified at atrocities, for which they saw no competent retribution in this world." At the meeting alluded to, Montgomery presided; having consented to occupy the chair, on condition that he should not be expected to make a speech. He, however, made one, which, as an apology for his late arrival, somewhat surprised his auditors; for its import was that in walking from the Mount to the

chapel, along with which he had been familiar for fifty years, he got so bewildered by the gas-lights, that he astonished two or three persons, who knew him as well as they supposed he ought to have known his way, by asking direction to what was, for many years, his constant place of worship.

October 21st. *Montgomery*: "I have read this book. Mr. Milnes has drawn up the narrative with considerable elegance, and his work is evidently a labour of love; but he fails to convince me that if John Keats had lived he would have been a great poet. I have been most pleased with his sonnets. The other specimens of his verse given in these volumes certainly exhibit brilliant flashes amid frequent obscurities, as the lamps did amidst the darkness in which I lost my way on Monday night. It may be said the fault is my own in both cases: be it so; but in a poem, or anywhere else, I like to travel where the lights are less scattered, the intermittent, and the darkness less palpable."

Holland: "We naturally anticipate, with interest, the editor's judgment on the well-known allegation that the 'brutality' of the 'Quarterly Review,' and a writer in 'Blackwood's Magazine,' had a most injurious, and to say fatal effect on the spirits and health of the sensitive poet." *Montgomery*: "You perceive Mr. Milnes deals at large with that question; and he declares that the result of a conscientious inquiry entirely dispels such a supposition." *Holland*: "And yet Shelley, in the fragment of a letter printed by the biographer, declares, in so many words, that the first effect of these reviews was the mind of Keats had been described of him as having resembled insanity; adding that it was only by carefully watching him that he was prevented from committing suicide. Now it is supposed only to repeat what he had been told,

did ■■■ correspondents wilfully mislead him, or did they themselves write what was palpably contrary ■■ evidence?" *Montgomery*: "The critiques were, perhaps, a proximate ■■■ of death, *the cholera*, so ■■ speak, that overtook the poet when he was in a peculiar ■■■ of predisposition."* *Holland*: "The character of Keats, both ■■ ■■■ and ■■ poet, is certainly advantageously developed by Mr. Milnes; but the perusal of the 'Memoir' terminates in making ■■ sad rather than a satisfactory impression on the mind of the reader. The poet, ■■ young, ■■ sanguine, and ■■ intensely imaginative, seems ■■ have fallen into ■■ wrong school for the best development of such ■■ genius ■■ his." *Montgomery*: "It is very probable that if, instead of falling early and entirely into the so-called 'cockney school,' admirably described by Mr. Milnes, he had been thrown among the 'Lakists,' the result might have been every way more favourable; for the 'worship of Nature,' however remote from the spirit of Christianity, ■■ at least ■■ thousand-fold more allied to the sympathies of universal humanity than any reflex image, however brilliant, which modern ingenuity can exhibit of the old mythologies of Greece and Rome. The 'Sonnets' are, *to me*, the green spots in the sparkling but arid poetry of Keats." *Holland*: "■■ am glad ■■ hear you say so, because that is precisely ■■■ opinion. They remind one of the caged skylark, which, while kept from soaring aloft towards heaven, seems ■■ sing ■■■

* Something ■■■ ■■■ seems ■■ have been ■■■ opinion of ■■■ Keats, ■■■ poet's brother, who, writing from ■■■ ■■■ States, ■■■ "After all, 'Blackwood' ■■■ the 'Quarterly,' ■■■ ■■■ fami-ly disease, consumption, ■■■ ministers of ■■■ sufficiently venomous, cruel, and deadly ■■ have consigned one ■■■ sensibility ■■ a premature death."—*Life* ■■■ ■■■ of Keats, vol. ii. p. 44.

sweetly when he stands on a few inches of fresh and fragrant sod than on a board strewn with the whitest sand; and this would doubtless be the were 'golden Pactolus' itself to supply the glittering material."

At the annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society, in Exeter on the of May year, it was resolved to the jubilee of that institution in all its departments throughout the world. Montgomery, already mentioned, was requested by Mr. Bickersteth to compose a hymn for the occasion; with this request the poet gladly complied, and in due this composition, commencing "The King of Glory proclaim*," was not only printed and circulated in its original form, wherever the mother-tongue of the Church of England found an utterance in her services, but it was translated also into Tamil, for the of the native converts in Tinnevely, Madras, and Ceylon. This high festival was appropriately held the first of November, a day which the Church has dedicated to the commemoration of the "one communion and fellowship" in which all the members of Christ's mystical body are knit together; and the subject is adverted here somewhat in detail because Montgomery is, perhaps, the only Christian poet who had the high religious distinction of being called upon by the Church of Christ to compose, and by the great Head of that Church permitted to take part in singing a strain which might literally be said to have surrounded the earth with unrolled melody, carried on simultaneously with an entire "circuit of the sun," throughout the "visible diurnal sphere." This holy concord of evangelical churchmen in Great Britain, with

* Tract, No. III. Hymn I. Orig. Hymns.

their brethren in the Lord, scattered throughout "all nations, and kindreds, ~~all~~ peoples, and tongues," in the ~~the~~ intercessary and eucharistical strains which ~~an~~ individual in the world-wide congregation ~~is~~ more humbly or unobtrusively breathing than their pious author in Sheffield, is thus anticipated in ~~one~~ of the ~~works~~ published ~~at~~ the time :—

"Before the auspicious day dawns upon us, ~~the~~ ~~will~~ have ~~been~~ in the far east, ~~and~~ ~~alone~~ upon ~~some~~ ~~the~~ China, the latest of the missions of the society, where little companies will be gathered together in the ~~name~~ of the Lord. India and Ceylon will next swell the chorus with their ~~various~~ bands of native Christians, ~~and~~ taught ~~to~~ sing the same ~~the~~ song, though in various tongues (the Bengalee, Hindee, Teloo-goo, Tamul, Singhalese, Malayalim, Malabatta) — East Africa, with its as yet lisping babes in Christ — Egypt, Smyrna, and Syria, the scanty representatives of the ancient Arabic and Greek tongues — the newly discovered tribes of West Africa at Abbeokouta will swell the strains. And then the full concert of voices from the elder brethren of Great Britain, throughout the various Associations of ~~the~~ land — not on this day meeting ~~as~~ almoners to commiserate the destitute, but as fellow-helpers of ~~the~~ joy of brethren in the Lord — like the 'joyful mother' with her children — grown ~~up~~ to a spiritual equality, and ~~with~~ an intelligent participation in divine worship. Then, as the ~~the~~ completes ~~the~~ circuit, the hearty voices of liberated Africans, made 'free indeed' by the early and tearful labours of this society — soon ~~and~~ ~~the~~ responded to ~~the~~ the wide Atlantic by their kindred race, the emancipated labourers of the ~~the~~ Indies, and from the free wanderers of North-West America. Then, when the ~~the~~ of evening have closed ~~the~~ lips of the ~~the~~ tribes, are yet the song ~~the~~ ~~the~~ away from the lips of the mother Churches of Great Britain, ~~the~~ New Zealander will prolong the universal anthem ~~with~~ the manly but softened tones of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~. Thus for a double day — 'from the going forth of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ from the end of ~~the~~

heaven, and his circuit ends of it'—for twenty-hours, Jubilee notes prolonged." *

The poet had only just closed his part in the theme of thanksgiving for the mercies which had marked his first fifty years' proceedings of the Church Missionary Associations, when he was called upon, and consented to assume the strain of the recurrence of a similar event in the history of a kindred Institution—the Religious Tract Society. At the jubilee festival of this "Parent of the Bible Society," which was held at Queen Street Chapel, Sheffield, November 13, Montgomery presided; and, although he made no formal speech, he read a copy of original verses, the appropriateness of which to the occasion will be obvious from the following extract, which will also show that, however the venerable poet might mistrust his lips or his memory in the advocacy of a cause that had never lacked his active support throughout the whole half century of its existence, his "right hand had lost none of its cunning" in embodying a fine thought in fitting rhyme:—

"The sunbeams, infinitely small,
In numbers numberless,
Reveal, pervade, illumine all
Nature's void wilderness.

"But, meeting worlds upon their way,
Wrapt in primeval night,
In language without sound, they say
To each—"God sends you light."

"Anon, with beauty, life, and love,
Those wandering planets glow,
And shine themselves, as stars above,
Gazers from below.

"Oh! could the archangel's eye,
 Everlasting
 Through all the mazes of the sky,
 A single sunbeam trace!

"He might that lovely one
 His destiny fulfil,
 As punctual as the parent
 Performs its will.

"The of Righteousness, with rays
 Of uncreated light,
 His power and glory thus displays
 Through nature's darkest night.

"Rays from that Sun of Righteousness,
 Our humble missiles dart;
 Mighty at once to wound and bless,
 To break and the heart.

"And could the archangel's sight
 The least of these pursue;
 He might record,—In its brief flight,
 Each a work to do."

As between the operations of the Tract Society in 1798 and 1848, Montgomery pointed with much interest what might, without impropriety, be called a *Polyglott* tract, circulated in Sheffield the latter date; it in English, French, German, Italian, Welsh, and native Irish!

November 18th. *Montgomery*: "I often thought of you last night, and said to myself, 'My friend Mr. Holland just lamenting the death of the "Mercury" than he did when deprived of opportunity of describing how namesake planet crossed the sun's;' for I suppose you witnessed that phenomenon, though I did not." *Holland*: "I saw the transit very distinctly, was visible during the

whole day; it was the only occasion on which I did see the planet Mercury, with a telescope.* What of last night and the newspaper?" *Montgomery*: "I allude to the auroral displays, which were so extraordinarily splendid that I thought you would have been glad to have had the opportunity of describing them. I should have been to have read your description; but I hope you have written a sonnet on the subject." *Holland*: "I certainly watched the progress of the aurora during the three hours of its continuance, from the first shooting up of beautiful spires of boreal light of the usual colour, till the moment when the whole hemisphere appeared like a vast pavilion of rose-coloured flames, rising in from almost every part of the horizon, and converging in the constellation Aries." *Montgomery*: "I noticed how distinctly the stars, those of the fourth magnitude, were visible through the coloured streamers; at the same time I thought the 'shooting stars' were rather numerous, reminding one of the *November meteors*, which were looked for in that season. It was singular also that, although the night was nearly as light as when the moon was at the full, there was an entire absence of shadows, which seemed to give something of a preternatural effect to the illumination of prominent objects." *Holland*: "Well, Sir, but much as I was impressed with the extraordinary grandeur of the spectacle, I have not described it in a sonnet; but I am willing to try my hand at one, if you will do the same." *Montgomery*: "I dare not accept your challenge; the day for that is past with me: my life, indeed, is drawing to a close; but I am anxious, if it shall please

* Nov. 1859. I have since seen it in the morning with the naked eye. — J. H.

God to spare me a little longer, to complete the collection and revision of my hymns. I then have achieved all that I am solicitous about in this world, am free of literary projects am concerned. I feel conscious, too, that in the publication of a volume of devotional poetry, the greater part of which has already been in the world, I shall risk no loss of reputation with the better portion of that class of my fellow countrymen who have taken no interest in my poetical productions." *Holland*: "I am afraid the current return on the sale of your works, during this year of commercial depression, will be very small." *Montgomery*: "It is greater than I anticipated; more than one hundred sets of the collected edition have been sold." He then mentioned an incident that amused him exceedingly. On his way home the preceding night he was overtaken by a decent working man, who, after a prologue of apologies for personal intrusion, asked the poet if he would kindly answer a question which he (the stranger) had long wished to put to him? "Yes," replied Montgomery, "any proper question." "Well, then," said the man, "I have been told that you wrote the 'Arabian Nights,'—is that the fact?" Montgomery felt it somewhat difficult to maintain his gravity while giving an answer, which, it was evident, lessened his credit as an author amazingly in the estimation of his humble and simple townsman.

Montgomery and his friend went into the Roman Catholic church then in the process of erection in Sheffield; their object being to witness the dexterity of a workman who was employed in chiselling not only grotesque heads, gurgils, and other ornaments, but large statues; these figures he executed in a somewhat clumsy style, but with wonderful ease and effect." *Montgomery*: "What an image-chamber of monstrosities is the mind of man! And yet he does not appear to

any forms of hideousness, but merely reproduce such have been grinning, smiling, or frowning, in stone for centuries; knowing or caring, it may be, quite as little about the history or meaning of the originals as you or I do." *Holland*: "The notion is doubt more or less fallacious; but imagine that the old sculptors of these things in with their work: believed they doing service religion, or, at least, which in their estimation the thing, the Church." Addressing the artist, "You a Roman Catholic, of ?" *Sculptor*: "Not I." *Holland*: "Are you constantly employed at this description of work?" *Sculptor*: "Yes; I executed about two hundred different figures for the Catholic cathedral at Manchester. I only borrowed hand here. Mr. Pugin my master." *Montgomery*: "Whatever difficulty one may feel in reconciling the ornate magnificence of the ancient gothic cathedrals with the simplicity of the Gospel-worship, there is commonly a charm of mediæval solemnity about them which is entirely wanting in these new and glaring imitations of a picturesque type." *Holland*: "It is a sort of Chatterton-and-Rowley composition in stone. The sentiment is modern, the antique. A poem of yesterday printed in black letter. This incongruity always appears to me still obvious when I workmen engaged in placing these laughing lugubrious monsters upon the walls of a Protestant church. It is often with still propriety that vast and expensive of a gothic Grecian character are sometimes included in the designs of modern dissenting places of worship." *Montgomery*: "It may so; but whatever may said of churches, of the meeting-houses are plain, and many of them tasteless enough; and I have often

said the ■■■ yet unborn who shall invent an appropriate style of chapel architecture." Entering ■■■ apartment, the ■■■ showed his visitors five or six figures of Greek and Latin fathers of the Church, which he ■■■ carving in grit-stone, and of life-size. Although of ordinary types, they ■■■ executed in an exceedingly free and spirited style. *Holland*: "The works here going forward seem to realise ■■■ which ■■■ have been exhibited in various parts of England hundreds of years ago, during the erection of those magnificent structures whose ruins ■■■ present ■ somewhat similar elevation to these walls and pillars." *Montgomery*: "And ■ time ■■ come when ■■■ this stately edifice must be itself ■ ruin! But at what date? Under what circumstances?"

December 15th. The Mount. *Montgomery* ■■■ reading the "Memoirs of Lord Castlereagh." *Holland*: "What do you think of ■■ lordship, from his relative's pen-and-ink sketch of him?" *Montgomery*: "Much ■■■ highly than I used to do from the newspaper ■■ rictures, or ■■ all events their party delineations of him. I ■■ sure he ■■ an able statesman, and I am inclined to think, on the whole, a conscientious, ■■ he certainly ■■ a ■■■ laborious one." *Holland*: "Of ■■■ you ■■ not reading the whole ■■■ of his official correspondence ■■ printed in these volumes?" *Montgomery*: "Indeed I am, every ■■■ of it! as it illustrates ■■■ only his abilities ■■ a Minister of State, but is the best evidence of that indefatigable exertion of body and mind ■■ which he ■■ a victim. I think Lord Brougham's ■■■ animadversions ■■ the character of Lord Castlereagh do no credit to their author, and the ■■■ ■■ they ■■■ neither made in the warmth of debate, nor during the excitement of political strife, but meditated and recorded in the quietude of the

study, many years after the subject of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] account. The charge against Castlereagh of [REDACTED] being able to speak [REDACTED] consecutive [REDACTED] in English, alike absurd and untrue, [REDACTED] very properly repelled, with indignation, by the Marquis of Londonderry. Lord Brougham himself would cut but [REDACTED] indifferent figure in this respect if the only public oration which I [REDACTED] heard him deliver had been reported *verbatim*. To be sure it [REDACTED] out of doors, and the image of 'heads rolling in the dust under [REDACTED] scaffold' appeared [REDACTED] haunt his imagination [REDACTED] strongly than it aided [REDACTED] elocution." *Holland*: "It [REDACTED] curious to notice the effects of time in mollifying the animosities of [REDACTED] judgment in reference [REDACTED] [REDACTED] individuals [REDACTED] whom [REDACTED] have suffered or apprehended wrong, either personally [REDACTED] politically." *Montgomery*: "It [REDACTED] seldom until the grave has closed over an individual of rank [REDACTED] authority, that we allow our sympathy with him, as a man 'of [REDACTED] passions with ourselves,' [REDACTED] have anything [REDACTED] fair play; in other words, that [REDACTED] accord [REDACTED] infirmities of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] humanity, in his case, the [REDACTED] indulgence which we [REDACTED] fain to claim in our own." *Holland*: "Your exposition appears [REDACTED] involve a motive analogous [REDACTED] that which [REDACTED] often leads [REDACTED] engraving of a laudatory epitaph on the tomb of a bad man. But while I grant that British censure, like 'British valour, [REDACTED] not with the dead,' the principle is more amiable than just, especially in an historical point of view. Time and death, which [REDACTED] often mollify, [REDACTED] they sometimes aggravate the remembrance or the effects of misrule, may, in like manner, weaken [REDACTED] obliterate the sense of gratitude [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and avowed; [REDACTED] this account it does not appear safe in all [REDACTED] [REDACTED] allow a contemporary judgment, founded as it may have been under the [REDACTED] of suffering or service experienced [REDACTED]

■■■ period, ■ be reversed, through the ■■■ withdrawal of the causes of ■ ■ another. It ■ not, indeed, ■ much the province, or rather the practice of the biographer ■ ■ historian, directly to ■■■ the popular impression of facts, ■ to modify them by assigning special motives ■ the actors. Hence, while the details of ■■ conduct of Lord Castlereagh, as a ■■■ of the Crown, ■■ but little affected in fact by the merely narrative portion of these volumes, a clearer view of the responsibilities and exigencies under which ■■ acted, as exhibited in the correspondence, does tend to place the whole of his official conduct in a much ■■■ favourable light than that in which ■■ have been wont to view it." *Montgomery*: "I think so; and, moreover, that his abilities ■ ■ statesman were, in many respects, as much underrated as his fidelity to the Crown ■■ misunderstood or misrepresented."

CHAP. CIII.

1849.

* MONTGOMERY'S FIRST IN "STATU PUPILARI"—VISIT OF
 MONTGOMERY—HOMOEOPATHY.—MONTGOMERY—RECOVERY AND
 GRATITUDE.—MONTGOMERY'S VISIT TO PLAINFIELD.—"SWINDLING."—MR.
 EVERETT AT THE MOUNT.—CONVERSATION.—ELLIOTT'S HEXAMETER
 VERSE.—MONTGOMERY'S RESPONSE.

IN the first week of January Montgomery appeared somewhat more feeble than usual; and, in reply to a question by Mr. Holland, said he had not dared, in preceding years, to venture to the usual Christmas Day service and communion in the parish church, on account of the length of time required, and the pressure of personal infirmity. On the 11th of January, an evening party, of about ten persons, was given at the Mount; on which occasion the poet appeared neither well nor cheerful, and a little ill-timed badinage from one of the gentlemen present evidently excited him painfully. "Having," says Mr. Holland, in a note written at the time, "noticed these symptoms, with something like apprehension, and not hearing or seeing anything of the good for a few days, I went to the Mount on the 18th, when my fears were realised. Montgomery was in bed, very ill, and he had been much worse. After receiving from Mr. Gales a statement of the state of the patient, I went up stairs, and found the sufferer with a cataplasm tied over one eye, and his face appeared so thin and pale, that the idea of a corpse irresistibly suggested." "I am very glad to see you," he said; and

then, after describing the ■■■■ of the attack, and the treatment prescribed by ■■■■ medical attendant, "Take from my pocket ■ key, open that drawer, which ■■■■ tains my treasures, and reach me ■ box which you will see." I ■■■■ and took thereout a ■■■■ of money, which, by ■■■■ direction, I carried ■ the Bank, and ■ the ■■■■ time arranged ■ execute ■■■■ other little commissions for him. He ■■■■ he went ■ bed after the party left, in ■ very feeble and feverish ■■■■; presently after which he became ■■■■ as seriously to alarm the household, and not the less so, in consequence of the utter numbness of one of his arms, which he, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ foreboding the worst, at the moment, told Miss Gales he believed ■■■■ ■■■■ alight touch of paralysis. But he ■■■■ surprised to find ■■■■ voice no ways affected. Happily the attack ■■■■ ■■■■ at all of such ■ character as he suspected; and even the inflammation of his eye, the pain of which he described as having been ■■■■ severe as if the pupil had got the tooth-ache, ■■■■ been mainly induced by the attempt to read ■ publication in very small print. I went again to the Mount ■ the following evening," adds Mr. Holland, "and found the sufferer sitting up, but ■■■■ with ■ bandage about his eyes. ■■■■ asked me to read to him ■■■■ letters, and readily ■■■■ well as gratefully consented that I should reply ■ the writers, thus relieving him both from present and future anxiety in reference ■ his ■■■■ spondents. In the ■■■■ of our interview he placed in my hand transcripts of ■ portion of his original Hymns, several of which, ■■■■ said, I should find quite ■■■■ ■■■■ He wished ■■■■ to read aloud the first line of each composition; and, as I did ■■■■ he not only gave ■■■■ little history of the origin of ■■■■ of them, but indicated such ■■■■ he thought ■ had ■■■■ ■■■■ before. Several of the ■■■■ I read through, *viz* ■■■■; but witnessing ■■■■

strong emotions which they excited in the poet's mind, and wishing also to avoid participation in such a scene of trying sympathy, I apologised and desisted. 'Read on,' said he, 'I am glad to hear you; the words recall the feelings which first suggested them, and it is good for me to be affected and humbled by the manner in which I have endeavoured to provide for the expression of similar religious experience in others. As all my hymns embody portions of the history of the joys and sorrows, the hopes and the fears of this poor heart, so I cannot doubt but that they will be found an acceptable vehicle of expression of the experience of many of my fellow-creatures who may be similarly exercised during the pilgrimage of their Christian life.' On leaving the Mount, I took with me the MS. of a poem 'Cæsar's Invasion of Britain,' the writer of which had solicited Montgomery's opinion as to whether or not it was a composition that would justify him in competing for the Oxford University prize offered for the best set of college rhymes on that theme." On the following day, Mr. Holland was somewhat surprised to receive, in a handwriting most singularly blurred for the poet, the following note:—

"The Mount, Jan. 20 1817

"MY FRIEND,

"If it be practicable, I will esteem it a favour if you will call on me, and give me a quarter of an hour's audience this evening, any time in the course of to-morrow. I have just received an express from Oxford about the Prize Poem, on which so much of a young minstrel's heart is set, and his future peace and fortune may depend; nay, perhaps the dawn of a new era in our country's literature from Chancer down to you and I. I hope the result will be well, and may he beat, whoever he be, hereafter, all the race of Oxonians!

"I am your obliged friend,

"J. MONTGOMERY."

About a red blotch upon the note the writer added :—

"By sign you know the leech has drawn blood from my morning, even of blood."

On Monday morning, Jan. 22., I called, and assured Montgomery that the lines of his correspondent were, in my opinion, of fair average merit, as compared with others of that class of compositions; as, however, he was anxious to hear a portion, I read the entire poem aloud at his bed-side. He then said, "In writing the author, you may tell him that of minute criticism is out of the question; but it is my opinion he may, with credit himself, be a competitor for a prize, which, under the circumstances, it will be no dishonour not to obtain; for in a race where so many will run, and only one win, the merit of being ninth or tenth wrangler, amid a list of Oxford *alumni* whose judges are the learned and disinterested heads of colleges, the distinction is well worth striving for."* Of the poet neither made nor suggested a single alteration in the MS. The subject, he said, recalled to him the fugitive popularity of a Seatonian prize poem on a cognate theme, "The Ancient Britons," written by Mr. Rickards, an Oriel man, several years ago.

When the poet's disorder appeared at the worst, Mr. Holland delicately hinted at the propriety of writing to his relatives, but he objected on the ground that they would be needlessly alarmed by any account of his in other handwriting than his own. Gales, however, wrote his only surviving brother; and on receipt of the letter, his daughter, Mrs. Foster, of Wool-

* The University magnates differed, as it turned out, widely from the poet and the biographer in this case, for the Newdigate prize was awarded this year, in consequence, as was alleged, of of merit in competing productions generally.

which, immediately set [] for Sheffield. [] arrived [] the Mount quite unexpectedly, [] the [] interview between the emaciated sufferer and this beloved niece [] deeply affecting on both sides. When [] Sheffield, she [] in the bloom of youth [] beauty; and now, after the lapse of eight-and-twenty years, she [] at her uncle's bed-side, in [] the sweet [] matronly gravity of a gentle and sympathising nurse; [] it likely [] be forgotten that, during the former visit, [] Elizabeth Gales [] expired in her arms. She remained at the Mount exactly a month, in which time she had the satisfaction [] her uncle not only quit his couch of suffering, but once [] get out of doors. In the interval stage of convalescence of which the drawing-room was the boundary, a group [] presented which [] often contemplated with deep interest; there, on the sofa, shrunk and feeble, lay the venerable poet, the good man, whom the best of his contemporaries through half a century had delighted to honour; [] him sat the aged woman, to whose welfare and that of her two sisters he had for a still longer period devoted himself with [] than the kindness of a brother; on the wall hung the [] portrait of that "Incognita," which had inspired one of the [] exquisite little poems in the language; picture and poem rendered doubly interesting by the recollection that she too [] present, who, as "Betsey Montgomery," had [] been thought by the poet [] bear no distant resemblance to that inspiring "image of [] who lived of yore."

In the crisis of his disorder he suffered much through violent pain in his eyes; and when, of [] least, it was feared that

" [] thick a drop serene had quench'd the orb,
Or [] suffusion veiled; "—

perfect restoration of sight was all but hopeless, a lady, who called to inquire after him, strenuously recommended homœopathic treatment. As Gales did not understand the exact import of this fashionable time somewhat novel term, she mentioned Montgomery's medical attendant, William Favel, Esq., who immediately, and very properly, addressed his patient, alluding in it what he heard, and suggesting the time a professional caution the subject. To Montgomery himself such admonition was, of course, personally unnecessary; and one of the earliest indications of renovated cheerfulness on his part was, when he mentioned to Mr. Holland the apprehension which seemed to have been entertained, that he, who had been a member of a philosophical society for many years, should so far surrender his conviction of the existence of an appreciable relation between cause and effect to believe that "the decillionth part of a grain drop" of medicine could produce any remedial effect! It would indeed, he added, be at once a strange repudiation of his conviction and experience during many years, and an egregious inconsistency on his part, a chairman of the Weekly Board of the Sheffield General Infirmary, he to cast away his confidence in the regular practitioner, and adopt the notion of homœopaths, unless, indeed, Hahnemann could produce something better than his assertion, that his system "a divine revelation of a principle of eternal nature!" *Holland*: "There are *maladies imaginaires* for which 'infinitesimal doses of medicine' may properly enough be prescribed; the imagination being 'active principle' of the nostrum, is of the disease; here, least, recognise something the grand anti-allopathic axiom, 'Similia similibus

rantur.” *Montgomery*: “But in all that there is nothing new; and I continue to think, whatever the risk from casual ignorance or inexperience, that there are many complaints for which heroic medicines, promptly administered in powerful doses, are the fitting remedies.” *Holland*: “Like the terrible gap between the British troops and the natives in India, where the most energetic treatment has nearly been overruled by the strength of the disorder; and yet this is a striking application, in the *quantitative* sense, of the principle formally announced in the homœopathic formula, ‘like likes.’” *Montgomery*: “I have tried my poor but *convalescent* eyes in reading the official dispatch of Lord Gough. What a horrible detail of human butchery, of murderous conflict, does it exhibit! Would that cannon balls had one signal recommendation of the ‘globules’ mentioned in this pamphlet, *where they do no good they do no harm!* But read the passage; it is, perhaps, one of the most curious that can be met with even in this class of publications. The author* says, ‘That they (the medicines) should be powerful to cure disease, and yet unable to make any impression in health, may seem paradoxical to many, nevertheless such is the fact; and we are familiar with something analogous to this apparent contradiction in the royal prerogative of our gracious Sovereign, who, though powerful for good, can do no wrong; thus it is with these little doses, which, though mighty to cure, can do no harm.’” *Holland*: “Capital! a right royal similitude! The Duke of Wellington on one occasion strongly expressed his disapprobation of ‘little wars;’ but his Grace was a doctor of the old school. I wonder, however,

* J. E. Norton, M.D., Derby, 1849.

what would be thought just now of any political homœopathist who should propose to counteract the threatened insurrectionary descent on Calcutta, by opposing 'infinitesimal' fractions of an army — say a man once — against such an enemy!"

The long-continued and inflammation of his eye deprived him of the ordinary pleasure of reading for some weeks after he otherwise convalescent; and although this loss in degree made up to him by the service of others, those persons of literary habits, who have been accustomed to the life-long indulgence of "reading to themselves," i. e. of musing a book in silent thought, will best be aware how partially the privilege of listening another compensates the loss of that gratification which arises from the personal perusal of a work in which interested. There were three works which he this time anxious to read for himself, "Beattie's Life of Campbell," "Layard's Nineveh," and "Macaulay's History of England." The first-named of these books afforded to the poet the earliest exercise of the long-suspended pleasure of continuous reading, and, we need hardly add, excited his attention as much as it tested his eyes.

He made remark on the pleasure with which, after being kept to medicine and gruel, he allowed eat, and found he could relish a dinner of plain boiled beef, adding, "Oh, how grateful, after an interval of sickness, and a special dietary, the common food!" *Holland*: "Nor is the least appropriate condiment in such case, as the poet says, a cheerful heart 'that those gifts with joy.'" *Montgomery*: "If Addison written nothing but those lines, they ought be sufficient to transmit his posterity; they admirably express a striking

sentiment which, I believe, occurs nowhere else in the whole range of popular hymnology, and which is, perhaps, but rarely appreciated by many persons who are very familiar with the poem from which your quotation is derived."

It was less of surprise than of thankfulness, such of the friends of Montgomery had seen him during his illness, to witness his re-appearance of doors; though many persons who, having for three months missed the poet from "the accustomed walk," when they again passed him in the street, intuitively turned to look after him, at the same time, saying their friends and themselves, "how faded! how infirm!" Early in the month of April he sufficiently recovered to make a visit to Fulneck, where he enjoyed, with his brethren, those solemnities which mark the festival of Easter in the Moravian communities, especially the "Love Feast," which is held what they call the "great Sabbath," or Saturday, which lies between the days on which all the Western churches commemorate the Crucifixion and the resurrection of Christ. Calling on Mr. Holland immediately after his return to Sheffield, the poet was evidently under the peculiar influence of those feelings which he had experienced during his brief but hallowed intercourse with *Alma Mater*; the music, the singing, the prayers and the addresses of the occasion, strongly recalling similar exercises of the paschal season in the days of his childhood and youth. He was anxious to read "Macaulay's History of England." *Holland*: "The 'Quarterly' contains what a reviewer might call a *swindging* review of the work." *Montgomery*: "I can give you a good authority for the word: Milton, in his hymn 'Christ's Nativity,' says that, from that happy day,

'The old dragon, under ground
 In straiter limits bound,
 Not half so far casts his usurp'd sway;
 And, wroth to see his kingdom fail,
 Sheds the scaly horror of his folded tail.'

A day or two afterwards Mr. Holland took me at the Mount. "You must," said the poet, pointing to the [redacted] of a plate, "[redacted] that, it is Fulneck Love-Feast cake," and again the Easter solemnities became the subject of conversation.

April [redacted] Mr. Everett, not having [redacted] Montgomery since his illness, paid a hasty visit to the Mount. The bard [redacted] glad to [redacted] his friend, and seemed [redacted] than ordinarily cheerful, though his visitor thought him looking a good deal [redacted] "withered" than he appeared to be twelve months before. The conversation during this brief but pleasant interview [redacted] of a desultory character, and had mostly reference to the current topics of the day; viz., Macaulay's "History of England," and the "Quarterly" review of it,—the latter, in the poet's opinion, [redacted] very clever, and might, perhaps, annoy the historian, but it would not affect the popularity of his book: the execution of Rush for the Stanfield Hall murders, and the rarity of capital punishments as compared with their number when Montgomery [redacted] in York Castle: he particularly described, as having made an indelible impression on his mind and feelings, the appearance of a grey-headed old man and his stalwart son, who [redacted] together led past his [redacted] prison-room door for execution:—the serious charges of directorial misconduct which had just been brought against Mr. George Hudson, [redacted] changes that had taken place in the character and circumstances of the "Railway King" since [redacted] [redacted] prayer-leader [redacted] Sunday-school teacher [redacted]

city of York :—Dean Cockburn system of geology, a system which propounded defended against Professor Sedgewick and the of the "anti-Mosaic" geologists, with almost as much zeal, but, Montgomery pleasantly remarked, with apparently much less than the very reverend gentleman some years before asserted, and made good claim against the diocesan, to the disputed perquisite of a certain "good, watch-coat:"—the ancient and existing of hanging the choir of the cathedral with black cloth during the of Lent; and the locally popular character of Archbishop Harcourt, compared with that of venerable predecessor in the of York. *Montgomery*: "Mr. Everett, I know you emphatically a travelling preacher; whither you bound to-day?" *Everett*: "I am at present my way home, having this morning come from Retford to Masborough, by way of Blyth and Maltby, and I think I hardly ever had a pleasanter ride; the coach passing, you are aware, almost close to the grounds of Roche Abbey." *Montgomery*: "I know the road well, and have often admired the sweet and varied scenery which it presents in all of the year." *Everett*: "Do you see or hear anything of Ebenezer Elliott?" *Montgomery*: "Mr. Holland showed me the other day playful lines of his, entitled 'English Hexameters,' in which the poet repudiates and exemplifies that peculiar metre." *Holland*: "But while he denies its adaptation where deep feeling passion be expressed, he says,—

'Yet finely paint the beauty of form and colour;
and or mountains cloud-like in distance, and
stealing
Azure heaven; or daisy, fresh the dew-glean
of dawn;

Young June's flush-tinted hawthorn, that snow
 of dropp'd flowers
 Over cowslip, roses embraced by wood-
 bine,
 Under or songful, thunder-whispering forest."

Montgomery: "And those lines are pleasing specimens of what their author calls 'Homer's world-famous metre in English,' are likely to meet with any poet of our day." *Everett*: "Your old friend, Mr. Roberts, of Park Grange, has died since I last visited Sheffield, and has left, Mr. Holland tells me, an 'Autobiography.' You have it, of course, and have probably had something to do with its publication. What do you think of it?" *Montgomery*: "The manuscript certainly passed through my hands; but I did little more than suggest the omission of three or four brief passages. The 'Memoir' completed, and the specimens of the author's multitudinous essays selected by his daughter Mary; and I think with Mr. Holland, that she has performed a delicate, filial duty, very judiciously." *Holland*: "I am glad that her assigned the task which I thought might have devolved upon me, and the so since she has acquitted herself in it with much discretion, ingenuity, and success."

One fine morning in May, Mr. Law, the curator of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens, happening to meet Montgomery and Miss Gales walking in those beautiful grounds, when no other company present, asked the poet to gratify him by planting an oak. The request was once complied with. He afterwards, at the request of the committee, planted two Chilian pines at the head of the principal walk, immediately in front of the conservatory.

May 7. Montgomery's Wesleyan friends in [redacted] much delighted [redacted] see him, [redacted] usual, in [redacted] chair [redacted] missionary anniversary, and [redacted] more [redacted] hear him, contrary to his practice for some years past, introduced the business of the evening by [redacted] address, [redacted] befitting alike [redacted] occasion, his own advanced [redacted] and the season of recovery from illness. The [redacted] of [redacted] remarks [redacted] mostly solemn and scriptural. Nor [redacted] [redacted] own feelings unmoved by the generous gratulations which hailed him [redacted] his appearance in the meeting; the fervour of expression, which commonly characterises [redacted] devotion of the Methodists, [redacted] known [redacted] [redacted] persons, [redacted] least by report; and, familiar as the bard might have been with such outpourings of platform prayer in past years, his spirit must have been more than ordinarily stirred in him at this time by the ardent aspirations [redacted] heaven, of which he [redacted] the subject, at the opening and close of the proceedings. Nor [redacted] it unpleasing [redacted] hear one of [redacted] speakers, who had been [redacted] missionary in the West Indies before [redacted] the terrible cart-whip [redacted] laid aside, congratulate the venerable poet that he had not only been permitted, in the order of Providence, to sing the dirge of the slave-trade, but, so far [redacted] Great Britain [redacted] concerned, the requiem of slavery itself.

CHAP. CIV.

1849.

INTERVIEW AND CONVERSATION AT QUEEN'S TOWER. — VOYAGES
IMAGINAIRES. — "PLAID MAN'S JOURNALS TO HEAVEN" AND "THE
PRACTICE OF PIETY." — CONVERSATION. — EXPULSION OF
FROM THE HOUSE. — MONTGOMERY GOES
TO JOHN HOLLAND. — ABOLITION OF
YORK'S SERMON. — MR. EVERETT'S TO — DOCT-

JUNE 13. Mr. Holland dined at Queen's Tower, with Montgomery and the Rev. Samuel Earnshaw, of the chaplains of the parish church of Sheffield. The poet appeared to enjoy the visit. The conversation naturally turned upon the sale of the effects of Sir George Sitwell at Renishaw Hall, then taking place. The various which were currently alleged have led to the breaking up of the establishment, — keeping hounds, loss through an attorney, law-suit with the Crown, electioneering expenses, and bad housewifery, — mentioned; the latter Montgomery did listen to, without interposing a sentence in two in defence of the good and economical domestic management of his countrywomen in general. He mentioned with particular interest the reputed merits of two violins, said to be by the celebrated makers Garnerius and Amantius, and which formed part of the sale that day; indeed, it afterwards turned out that the poet upon a music-seller to direct his attention to these old *Mr. Roberts*: "I

Renishaw Hall yesterday, and found the style and somony of the building very indifferent." *Montgomery*: "Perhaps you will be less surprized that, when you told it was built by Badger, who erected several houses Sheffield; his son, promising young architect, would, it anticipated, have distinguished himself, had he lived longer. Sir Sitwell Sitwell, the father of Sir George, one of the determined game preservers in the county; used to of hares both sides of the lanes about Eckington; they under the hedges, or spotted in the fields and park, if conscious of their perfect security; in fact, their owner spared neither trouble expense in this matter. You might have heard, I have heard Eckington in the dead of the night, a gun fired in front of the Hall; it was that of Sir Sitwell himself, who expected immediately to hear responsive shots from keepers out in different parts of the estate; it not, of course, to be expected that such a locality would be without its histories of conflict between those guardians of the game and poachers in the preserves, and many a story, of them tragical enough, of nocturnal encounters, have I heard at the house of old Mr. Galea." *Larnshaw*: "Are the Sitwells a family of ancient standing at Renishaw? I have always understood they went from only about fifty or sixty years since, of them having built Mount Pleasant, which you may yonder from this window." *Montgomery*: "That Francis Hurt, who, having married a daughter of the Eckington family of Sitwell, took the name; he grandfather of Sir George, the present baronet. I heard anything of the earlier period; perhaps Mr. Holland tell something more about it." *Holland*: "Not much; you will a pedigree in 'Hunter's Hallamshire,'

dating from the middle of the seventeenth century; but I believe the court rolls of the [redacted] of Ecking-
 [redacted] contain [redacted] entries relative [redacted] the [redacted] of
 Dr. Sitwell, of Renishaw, [redacted] early [redacted] the reign of the
 third [redacted] fourth Henry." Montgomery [redacted] admiring,
 with Mrs. Roberts, [redacted] superb cactus flower. *Holland*:
 "It might be [redacted] fitting ornament for [redacted] angel's bosom, [redacted]
 [redacted] could admit the idea of [redacted] female angel." *Montgo-*
gomery (sharply): "And why not?" *Holland*: "I
 think it would be anomalous to all [redacted] ordinary [redacted]
 tions of such intelligences." *Montgomery*: "And yet,
 poetically [redacted] least, the term angel has very often been
 applied [redacted] woman, and rarely to man, [redacted] such;" [redacted] de-
 licate compliment this, which his lovely hostess heard
 and appreciated. *Holland*: "I [redacted] [redacted] you have
 Mrs. Roberts on your side, and perhaps also the Rev.
 Mr. Houghton, whose work, 'On Sex in the World to
 Come,' I should like to read, as I have myself written
 an essay to prove that there will be neither distinction
 of sex, [redacted] personal recognition in heaven." *Mont-*
gomery: "I [redacted] [redacted] that such is your opinion;
 but others think differently: [redacted] neither you [redacted] [redacted]
 Houghton really know anything at all about the matter
 with certainty, he had better have let it alone; and
 I advise you, [redacted] all events, not to print your work."
 As the party [redacted] afterward entering the garden, they
 passed [redacted] of those well-known and striking casts,
 which [redacted] scattered through the country, of that cele-
 brated antique composition, called "The Dog of Alci-
 biades," which is at present in Duncombe Park, the
 [redacted] of Lord Feversham. *Holland*: "What a [redacted]
 figure of an animal is that! even in this familiar copy
 [redacted] [redacted] but pause to admire it; and yet, according
 [redacted] Mr. Everett, [redacted] very inferior in effect to the ori-
 ginal work in marble." *Montgomery*: "Mr. Landor,

in ■■■ strange world ■■■ he describes in 'The Fountain of Arethusa,' while ■■ *does* recognise ■■ presence of ■■■ the Greek and Roman worthies of the other ■■ which I dare say *you* do not in your imaginary paradise, would not allow ■■ classic hero, ■■ Pope does the poor Indian,

'To hope, ■■■ to that equal sky,
■■■ faithful dog shall bear him company.'

Whatever may be said or thought by ■■■ persons about restitution or retribution of the souls of brutes, ■■ can fairly be argued concerning the heavenly ■■■ in ■■ doctrinal or theological sense, the idea of such a world ■■ that described in the romance appears ■■ incongruous to all our natural associations and feelings, ■■ it is unsanctioned by revelation; how strange ■■ the descriptions of sweet flowers, which attract neither bees nor butterflies; of splendid trees, in which birds neither nestle nor sing; and of brilliant streams, in which there are neither fishes ■■ any other living thing! To me, Robinson Crusoe's Island ■■■ not only a more interesting, because more natural, but a ■■ happier spot." *Holland*: "I suppose it would be deemed a ■■■ palpable solecism in the description of such an imaginary world as that of 'The Fountain of Arethusa,' ■■ introduces any of the inferior animals, and restore them ■■ their wonted instincts, without including also the hypothesis of reproduction of the species, than in ■■ of man; yet ■■ the birds and beasts ■■■ allowed to increase and multiply there ■■ upon earth, why forbid the beatified inhabitants of the highest order ■■ rock their procreant cradles?" *Montgomery*: "It ■■■ however, that while ■■ birth ■■ occur in that strange world, death may take place there, and separation too; poor Bartholomew Horn-

I [] interest in him as [] story advanced: but [] bury the [] Castleton quaker in a magnificent sarcophagus, [] the Church [] England service [] him, and then to [] his virtues by an epitaph in the very language of that Hades where he died of *snawi*, was almost enough to make him turn over in his shroud!" *Roberts*: "Have you seen Ebenezer Elliott's queer lines on 'Sheffield'?" *Montgomery*: "I read them in the newspaper*, but could not understand them." *Roberts*: "He pays you a compliment, such [] it is." *Montgomery*: "I am [] that my [] mentioned [] all." *Roberts*: "No; but it is indicated in connection with his own, and that of two noted members of our Town Council, in lines to this effect:—

'Thy hard, thy prose rhymester, thy [] in prose—
James, Ebb, [] two Isaacs—the plum, and three sloss!'"

Earnshaw: "The [] is not a very elegant [] at any rate." *Roberts*: "Nor is that [] in which the poet compares the appearance of the town, as seen from [] Park Hill, to 'a vast mutton-pie!'" *Montgomery*: "The simile has not even the merit [] originality; for you will recollect that in Le Sage's 'Diable Boiteux,' Asmodeus is made to show Don [] all that [] going [] at night in the houses [] Madrid, as plainly [] you [] into a pie whose top [] taken off!" *Holland*: "I recollect, on a certain occasion, [] you compared the fine, swelling hill of Wincobank [] a great goose-pie." *Montgomery*: "Not in print, I hope: but anyhow, I must, [] well [] Mr. Elliott, have been indebted to Le Sage's simile; and in this instance, [] least, we may properly 'give the [] his due.'"

* *Sheffield Independent*.

"And, perhaps, without injustice ■ Swift, ■ couplet you will recollect : —

'The house of brother Van I spy,
In shape resembling a goose-pie.'"

■ we got ■ of the house, Montgomery said, in allusion to "The Fountain of Arethusa," "Landor's story reminds one of ■ friend Mr. Roberts's ■ of 'The World of Children,' which he has ■ in the ■ of ■ globe, and described in ■ book, and ■ curious production it is: though I think ■ beatified boys and girls would be ■ of the uninteresting employment assigned ■ them in the romance; ■ is it to deal with such ■ subject." Romances, the interest of which is made to turn upon adventures in imaginary regions, in the planets, and even in the ■ of the earth, are by no ■ of modern invention. Some of these chimerical expeditions, ■ Mr. Dunlop has remarked when adducing examples*, ■ often entertaining in their most ■ form; while in their improved state they have been made the vehicles of keen satire, moral instruction, and philosophical research.

The poet had been reading ■ article in the "Edinburgh Review"†, founded on ■ of the London Catalogues of ■ recently published. *Montgomery*: "This ■ a very ingenious ■ well-written paper, by Mr. Henry Rogers, who ■ my colleague in the compilation of the 'Christian Correspondent.' You will, I ■ be pleased with it." *Holland*: "I have ■ with much pleasure." *Montgomery*: "■ I ■ you have ■ read these two Catalogues?

* ■ "Voyages imaginaires."

† No. CLXXX. "The Vanity and Glory of Literature."

[one privately printed, containing a curious description of the MSS. belonging to the Rev. Venerable Archdeacon Wrangham, of Hunmanby; the other, a sale-list of the library of the Rev. H. Lyte. Pointing to an MSS. in the latter—] Here is Arthur Dent's 'Plaine Man's Pathway to Heaven;' a book which, whatever its character, is, at least, interesting from its connection with the history of John Bunyan's conversion, and directly pointing to the origin of 'The Pilgrim's Progress.' I should very much like to see it." The work was sent to him the next day; and afterwards Mr. Holland visited the Mount. *Montgomery*: "I have read your curious book, which appears so thumb'd and antiquated that one might easily imagine it to have been the very copy which poor Bunyan's wife brought him as part of her marriage portion: but what a tissue of Calvinism does it occasionally exhibit! Read these four lines; you sometimes hear such a sentiment charged upon that system, but I never with it so broadly propounded elsewhere:—'I speak not of parents and children, whereof some, no doubt, are saved by virtue of the promise and covenant, through the election of grace.'" *Holland*: "That passage must have startled Mr. Offer himself, who alludes to it in the Introduction to his edition of 'The Pilgrim's Progress.'" *Montgomery*: "There is, however, much good in Dent's book, as his theology frequently appears. Here is an illustration of pride, so graphic that Bunyan himself might have written it:— 'These men trust altogether to their own wit, learning, policie, riches, great reputation in the world: and all men crouch to them, and clap their hands to them, they like turkey-cocks, up with their feathers, draw wings upon ground

with a kind of snuff, and disdain of all men, as if they were the only wights of the world: when they do praise themselves for their gifts, soothe them and applaud them, then it is a wonder how they streak themselves, though they forthwith take their flight, and mount into the clouds."

A few days afterwards, Mr. Holland forwarded me a poet a copy of the twin volume, mentioned with the preceding in all the memoirs of Bunyan. This book, "The Practice of Piety," by Lewis Bailey, bishop of Bangor, exists in numerous editions. Montgomery's estimate of its merits is somewhat higher than that of his friend. *Holland*: "Bailey's book, although it is full of excellent matter, and has often been reprinted, is written in a dry, operose style, unrelieved by a single spark of eloquence or ingenuity: that however it may have influenced the piety, it has certainly not laid under any obligation the genius of Bunyan." *Montgomery*: "It contains good stuff: I took it up on Sunday afternoon, and could not lay it down again for several hours. In one thing, at least, Bailey resembles Dent, — undisguised Calvinism; but, generally prevalent as such sentiments may have been in the seventeenth century, few persons have condensed them so palpably as in these words which I have marked:—'From the doctrine of God's eternal predestination and unchangable decrees, he [man] gathereth, that if he be predestinated to be saved, he is saved: if to be damned, he means can do no good.'" *Holland*: "I have marked the words in the sequence of being struck with their plain, undisguised conveyance of a sentiment, which, however, by circumlocution of phraseology, is to me always revolting." *Montgomery*: "And yet they are fairly deducible from the dogma of election, as interpreted in the following manner."

termed the 'Calvinian hypothesis,' whether presented in [redacted] form by some of the boldest divines [redacted] Genevan school, [redacted] by such amiable men [redacted] the [redacted] Dr. Williams, whose plan of explaining [redacted] unfathomable mystery by applying the notion of 'preterition' [redacted] Divine conduct, always appeared to [redacted] very unsatisfactory." *Holland*: "The fact is, such a scheme just [redacted] much detracts, in its logical sequence [redacted] least, from the universality and irrespectiveness of [redacted] amnesty [redacted] Gospel offers [redacted] the sinner, [redacted] any other conceivable scheme of ultra-predestination." *Homery*: "I think so." Several other characteristic [redacted] pointed [redacted] and read; and the poet expressed his surprise that he had [redacted] before [redacted] with either of these books, often [redacted] he had wished [redacted] see them, and copies of some of the [redacted] editions of which [redacted] by [redacted] means [redacted] He agreed with Mr. Offer, that not a single direct imitation of any [redacted] in Dent's "Dialogue" or Bailey's "Dissertation" [redacted] traceable in Bunyan's writings; but he also thought with Mr. Holland, that the resemblance between the alliterative titles of Mrs. Bunyan's two noted books, "The Plaine Man's Pathway to Heaven" and "The Practice of Piety," and that of "The Pilgrim's Progress," was too striking to have been wholly accidental.*

August [redacted] At this time [redacted] event occurred in relation

* The preference which seems to have been given to the letter P, in alliterative title-pages especially, is remarkable. [redacted] the [redacted] mentioned above, and others which might [redacted] [redacted] the same date, every reader will recollect *Pierce Plowman* — *Purchas's Pilgrimage* — *Pilgrimage of Perfection* — *Pilgrimage Paradise* — *Pilgrim's Practice* — *Peregrine Pickle* — *Peter Pindar* — *Paul Positive* — *Peter Plymley* — *Peeveril of the Peak* — [redacted] by a Poet — *Paul Pry* — *Peter Parley*, &c. There is a [redacted] Poem, entitled "*Fugna Porcorum*," every word of which begins with P.

one of the authors of the work, which, while it led to a sharp controversy among religious people in general, caused great pain to the sensitive feelings of Montgomery. His friend, James Everett, who was an able, laborious, popular Wesleyan preacher, and a devoted literary supporter of Methodism, was summarily expelled from the Connexion; because he was tried and found guilty of, and even formally charged with, any breach of its laws, but because he declined to answer a question officially put to him in Conference, with the intention of making himself criminate himself or others, the author or authors of certain anonymous publications containing strictures on the administration of the body, and well as remarks which were disagreeable to some of the preachers, and such alleged to be generally detrimental to the character of the ruling authority and influence of the religious society to which Everett belonged. Into the merits of a controversy so fruitful of painful and disastrous results, we have no disposition here to enter; but to have passed silently so daring and unrighteous an act as that by which the Wesleyan legislature determined, by a mere exercise of despotic power, to sacrifice once the ministerial status, and, as far as they could, the personal character of an individual whose history is so intimately mixed up with these reminiscences of "The Poet," would have been little in keeping with the ostensible design of the work, and with the independent convictions of him upon whom its composition has devolved, and would be any lengthened transaction only lamentable in itself, and as involving the consequent loss of more than a hundred thousand members of the Wesleyan body, but which we have interested, at the moment of its publication,

every intelligent member of every religious community in Great Britain.

August 16. Mr. Blackwell, being with his family at Buxton, wrote to Montgomery, pressing him and his wife to go thither at once, as they would find lodgings ready on their arrival. With this invitation they complied.

James Montgomery to John Holland.

[Post mark. August 23. 1840.]

"MY DEAR FRIEND,

"Time takes so much killing when you have nothing else to do with him, that there seems no end of the work, and nothing is done; for *in doing nothing*, as there is no progress, there is no termination; while in doing everything, beside you cannot escape the finality in a world where all that is is mortal, and that only which is not is immortal. The thing which is nothing is, in this respect, as perfect as a circle, which, though the symbol of eternity, is equally the reality of nothing;—but having once run the round of this foolish idea, which betrayed me at starting, I must fly off at a tangent, and begin this epistle at the beginning, namely, from the point where you parted with me, at the corner of Change Alley, five days ago; merely adding that I should not have bewildered you by saying 'much about nothing,' except to excuse for my pen's length—long—not excuse it—since I have hitherto, and am as diligently as possible, going on with as much yawning as may be, exercising ourselves in the profitable manner of employment described in the first three lines of my rhapsody. We had a very good and pleasant ride over the moors to Bakewell, having for our only passenger, Mr. Worth, an architect, in a very good carriage; and surely was burthen enough for two horses and a clumsy coach to hurry over the moors and away, by Bar'ow, through Chatsworth and Edensor, to the metropolis of the Peak. I have observed more than once, on travel, that you have scarcely got out of sight of the sound of your residence, or arrived at

the place of your destination, you some familiar face unexpectedly, are likely to temporary neighbours where we to strangers. As soon as the carriage stopped to change horses two of our neighbours (Mr. William Parker Mr. William Butcher) stepped of 'Wheat-sheaf' Baslow, and of course it was on both sides, 'Hail! fellow, well met.' They were resting, for first stage, on a free-and-easy here, there, anywhere, just they could quarters. They were proceeding to Buxton, Matlock, Alton Towers, or, parted with these good gentlemen, who had a horse and gig help them their way, danger of being by competitors divide convenience with them, peril of a quarrel undesirable on the highway: but was happiness miles further. At Bakewell, where the coach stopped to change horses, three, sitting snugly little on four wheels, which, I you, was, according to authentic records of the Black Hole Calcutta, square yards smaller murder-den, yet, I acknowledge, large enough to accommodate another reasonably-sized personage; we sitting snugly, I, unsuspecting any great misery of human life befall when, lo! of the inn came gentleman of no dimensions, evidently equipped for travelling, with 'bound for Buxton,' not written, indeed, plainly road, in their We were, of expecting favoured the and willingly enough in soon were perfectly horrified when the coach door was opened by one of despotic who dictate in wayfaring matters, and unceremoniously by make room all three of the for admission, who had been duly booked and paid their fees, the coach being 'licensed,' as peremptorily assured, 'to carry six' We could our eyes, and it as hard believe when astounding intelligence communicated. was vain.

book-keeper — three recruits cared a straw ; in short, the — carried by storm ; — was — impotent resistance, and the door was desperately — three angry occupants — the — glad intruders. ‘Smack! — the whip ; — wheel! were — — — — — three!’ — — sorrow, — joy of — conquerors, — — equal — with ourselves in the issue, — only to — twelve miles long, and neither had cause to envy the other the rest of — ride. — it — say — ‘*mirabile dictu!*’ — Roman poets — they record — prodigious — — ‘strange — tall,’ — old English, whether prose — — the journey, — — nothing aforesaid, in — of ‘killing time,’ by breaking him — the wheel — excuse — pun, but — bad enough for the occasion — the journey — — a happy end, — any — must — happy in such a plight, for — actually all six survived the fate of the — victims ; — being let out of — dungeon, — landing in the street of Buxton, we found, — taking — of lives, limbs, and luggage, — these — there in full tale. You have — enough of perils in travelling, and — (Sarah — I) — compensated for all when Mr. Blackwell opened — coach door, and — — that he — secured for — lodgings a few doors off, and immediately conducted — to them. They proved to be very comfortable ones ; — considering that for several days Buxton had been thronged — visitors, many of whom — find scarcely — decent hovel to be wrangled for, — be too — to Mr. — kindness on this — casion. We found him and — family in much — quarters. They — pretty well, except that Mrs. B. — been, — — to-day, painfully exercised with lameness, I believe from — sprained foot — an — grievance. Thank you — the — newspapers, which — received yesterday morning. — you please to call — indeed I am sure you will, as you promised to do — at — Mount, and inquire — — family there — including Mary the *big*, — — *middle*, — — the *little* — don’t forget

to send word about the latter. You will also ask for any letters which may have arrived since we left home: open them; and if there be any worth forwarding hither, enclose them, addressed to me at '*Mrs. S. Turner's Lodgings*;' others you may keep till our return. / We talk of staying here till the latter end of next week, but not longer. You will tell our Mount folks to be good, and do good, till then; and if they [] anything to inform us of meanwhile, they may communicate [] through you. [] Saturday's newspaper we shall be glad to receive. What I ought to have told you [] first, I must mention at last; namely, that I had intended to have written on Saturday after our arrival, but, as usual, postponed the attempt till too late. On Monday, however, I did seriously sit down to the duty, but was interrupted by being carried off [] Mr. [] carriage in the forenoon, in one direction among the mountains, and in the afternoon, on a '*visit of mercy*,' on behalf of our kind-hearted neighbour, Mrs. Mitchell, who was here a [] weeks ago, to [] cottage of a poor family; [] Miss G. and I performed on foot; and if you have an opportunity of calling on Mrs. M., next door to us, [] the Mount, please to tell her that we delivered her packet to the [] mother, [] her and her baby (the [] a very weakly little thing, [] she nurses most tenderly) and her maimed husband, who [] apparently recovering, though slowly, from his awful accident. How ought such as I to be humbled at the sight of *real poverty* and severe suffering borne with quiet, and patience, and resignation to the will [] Lord, [] where they little [] loving kindness, from the neglect of those who ought to be their teachers and exemplars. However, in all the dark places of [] land, whatever [] he said of [] Methodiam, [] Fly-Sheets and their authors, it [] a glorious thing to say [] people, that, [] wherever you will, through [] length and breadth of this whole land (of England, [] least), *you can hardly get out of the sound of the Gospel from Wesleyan lips.* In this I do rejoice, [] rejoice; [] may their sound continue to [] of [] earth, speaking in all the languages under heaven! I []

end here. Miss Gales sends kind regards, and believes ever truly,

"Your obliged friend and servant,

"J. [redacted]

After sojourning about a fortnight at Buxton, Montgomery received a message to the effect that the Archbishop of York, in conformity with a promise personally made to [redacted] before, [redacted] announced his intention of visiting Sheffield, in the course of the ensuing month, to preach [redacted] in behalf of the General Infirmary. It was in vain that [redacted] Holland, who received and opened [redacted] poet's letters during his absence from home, and, therefore, knew all that was going forward on the subject of the anticipated sermon, assured him that there was no occasion for either haste or anxiety on his part; [redacted] deep concern for the welfare of the charity [redacted] which he presided co-operating with [redacted] constitutional [redacted] entirely broke up his repose of mind, while away from home; added to these inducements to return and prepare to receive the Archbishop, [redacted] the prospect of an intermediate visit at Fulneck, [redacted] hinted at in the following letter:—

Montgomery to John W. [redacted]

"Buxton, Aug. 26. [redacted]

"MY DEAR FRIEND,

"Though this is Sunday, it seems right that I should [redacted] you [redacted] we are circumstanced. [redacted] now propose (D. V.) to proceed homeward on Wednesday, [redacted] Thursday, as we had intended: for since [redacted] came hither the letter, which you [redacted] me from Fulneck, summons me to appear there on Sunday next, to be present at a certain dedication by baptism, of the new member of our small family, to [redacted] who [redacted] the parents*, [redacted] who requires in such cases of Christian parents, that they should 'take the

* [redacted] and Mrs. Mallieu.

child, and nurse it for Him.' I must, therefore, leave home on *Saturday at the latest*, and no doubt, if all be well, there will be some engagements at The Mount ■ require a day or two of rest before I renew my travels. Will you have the kindness to call there (if convenient) to-morrow, and tell Mary to prepare the house and expect ■ on Wednesday. . . . It is not impossible that we may not be able to secure coach places on that day; for Buxton is *filling* and *overflowing* daily; therefore, should we not then arrive, no uneasiness need be felt on our account, by any who may be glad to welcome us when we do arrive. The birds [grouse] came safely, by your good management: I shall thank Mr. Young for them in due time. Miss Gales sends kind respects, and will write a line or two on the other ■ ■ ■

"I am, truly, your obliged friend,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"To Mr. Holland, Sheffield."

On the 7th of September the Archbishop of York visited Sheffield, in the discharge of his benevolent promise and mission. The venerable poet received ■ Grace ■ the Infirmary; and afterwards conducted him, accompanied by the local clergy, to the adjacent church of St. Philip, the minister of which, at the close of the sermon, announced that "a hymn, which ■ originally composed by Mr. Montgomery ■ be used ■ the opening of the Infirmary fifty years ■ would be sung," viz.—

"When, ■ a stranger on ■ sphere,
 ■ lowly Jesus wandered here,
 Where'er ■ ■ fled,¹
 And sickness ■ ■ fainting head," ■

Sept. 19. Mr. Everett having been invited with ■ of ■ fellow-preachers ■ attend ■ meeting ■ Sheffield,

* Original Hymn, ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ give an account of the grounds ■ the manner of
 ■ expulsion ■ the Wesleyan body, ■ ■
 walked ■ ■ the Mount ■ his friend ■ ■
 poet, who received ■ ■ usual with ■ ■
 cordiality. *Montgomery*: "Ah, ■ Everett! ■ you
 ■ neither ground to powder, ■ rolled into tinfoil:
 ■ am glad ■ ■ you looking ■ well." *Everett*: "And
 you still dare to take in and shake hands with a poor
 excommunicated Methodist preacher?" *Montgomery*:
 "To be ■ I dare; I am, ■ you know, always very
 glad ■ ■ you under any circumstances; besides,
 you are more popular than ever, for I have just now
 seen your portrait and those of your ■ companions
 in the 'Illustrated London News!' I do ■ exactly
 recognise the likenesses of your colleagues, but, judging
 from *yours*, I should think the persons of the 'Trium-
 virate' ■ exhibited with tolerable fidelity. I am ■
 ■ able ■ judge of the accuracy of the printed ■
 of your expulsion; indeed I have not read much on
 the subject, besides the record of Conference pro-
 ceedings in the 'Watchman;' a report of your speeches
 at Exeter Hall, ■ published in the 'Wesleyan Times;'
 and some of the leading articles in the London papers.
 As for ■ so-much-talked-of 'Fly-Sheets,' I have not
 only ■ ■ them, but had not ■ heard of their
 existence, until the commencement of the late pro-
 ceedings in Conference." *Everett*: "Nor would I ad-
 vise you to read them." *Montgomery*: "But Mr.
 Dixon, of Page-Hall, has promised ■ lend ■ a
 pamphlet of 'Remarks on the Fly-Sheets.'" *Everett*:
 "You ■ read *that*, though I would not have you
 trouble yourself with the ■ ■ merits of the ■
 trovery ■ either side. Let us turn to ■ less
 painful topic." *Montgomery*: "We cannot but deplore
 the immediate effect of unhappy ■ like this,

well on churches as individuals; but it is the prerogative of God to bring ultimate good out of present evil: I hope, my dear friend, it will be so in this instance, both as regards your personal welfare and the cause of Methodism: "You have so long taught, you continue to preach." In the forenoon he was shining brightly, the poet invited us up into the drawing-room to look at his favourite picture, "Incognito," our entrance of which was only inferior to his. We found that his entrance had arrested his pen in the midst of transcribing a Hymn, which he requested us to compose for the use of "Ragged Schools." On being requested to favour him with a hearing of the verses, he read what he had written, but with such an involuntary accompaniment of deep feeling, that we felt more pain than pleasure in the affecting incident. *Gales*: "I know what has made Montgomery so unwell the last day or two: it is this effort of composition, trifling as it may seem. On taking our leave, the venerable poet said with peculiar emphasis, as he shook Mr. Everett by the hand, "Farewell, my dear friend, and God bless you!"

CHAP. CV.

1849.

NEW EDITION OF MONTGOMERY'S POEMS.—MONTGOMERY'S "FATHERS."—MEETING OF MONTGOMERY AND JOHN FOSTER PLANTS & TREES AT THE MOUNT.—MONTGOMERY'S VISIT TO MR. EVERTS.—THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—MONTGOMERY'S LETTER TO MONTGOMERY LEADER.—REVISION OF MONTGOMERY'S

SEPT. MONTGOMERY called upon Mr. Holland: he appeared exceedingly hoarse, feeble, and depressed, but expressed a hope that he might be spared to see a new edition of his poems through the press,—a consummation which, however, he did not by any means confidently anticipate. He adverted, not without tears, to the attack of hæmorrhage which his only and beloved nephew, the Rev. John James Montgomery, had just undergone; adding that the bleeding recurred, the sufferer, he feared, must become a disembodied spirit. Mr. Holland earnestly advised the poet himself to obtain medical advice; and he determined to call upon the doctor on his way home, promising to leave the house during the remainder of the day. He appeared interested in the account which Mr. Holland gave of the contents of a historical tract published by Rev. Joseph Hunter*, and the purport of which was to illustrate the family history of the "Pilgrim

* The author afterwards amplified his materials to the bulk of a volume, which appeared in 1854, under the title of "Collections concerning the Founders of New Plymouth."

Fathers," who sailed to America in the good ship "May Flower," in 1620, more especially show Scrooby Manor-House, situate near Bawtry, at the junction of the counties of York, Lincoln, and Nottingham, not only the birth and hiding-place of an ancient Puritan church, but the actual cradle of the vigorous spirit of civil and religious liberty which issued in the peopling of the New England States with the Anglo-Saxon stock. Montgomery took the book home with him, remarking that the interest which he felt in the subject was the author would keep him in the house for the evening. He spoke with approbation of Ramsay's "Memoir of Mrs. Hosland," as being executed with discretion and taste, praising, at the same time, the address by the authoress to several members of the royal family, and comparing their purity of sentiment and delicacy of style with the fulsome and egregious panegyrics addressed by laureated and other poets to royal personages during some preceding reigns.

Oct. 11. Montgomery, although exceedingly averse to making his appearance in any public position, especially when coupled with the apprehension that he might be expected to speak, consented to be one of the ministers of "The Congregational Union," assembled at Leeds. In doing this, he not only yielded to the importunity of old friends, who were anxious to gratify their junior brethren by such a brief interview with him who had taken so active a part with their countrymen in the formation and advancement of their religious institutions, but, by occupying a 'place of honour at the right hand of the Rev. President of the meeting, manifested an unabated oneness of spirit with the whole section of the Church of Christ. His health being proposed from the chair, he was led, almost perforce, to

make a short speech, in which he adverted to his first knowledge of the meetings and worship of the Independents, by casually attending, when a youth, and while residing at Wath, the cottage-preaching of a man whose name had passed into the history of the revival of religion begun by the Methodists, namely, the Rev. Mr. Groves, one of six students who, had previously been expelled from the University of Oxford for "singing, praying, and expounding the Scriptures." He mentioned also, that indeed he had done so previous occasions, that one of the very first persons whose friendship he enjoyed, after he came to reside at Sheffield, was a man who held the second place among Congregational theologians, — the Rev. John Pye Smith, D. D. "This kind friend," said the speaker, with much *nostalgia* and feeling; and amid the reiterated cheers of his audience, "when on a certain occasion, I had to leave Sheffield for six months, stepped into my place, and looked after my affairs: we were, indeed, alike young and inexperienced politicians, committing many mistakes, and getting into some scrapes, which the possession of older and colder heads might probably have enabled us to avoid."*

Nov. A pleasing incident occurred at the beginning of this month, which we cannot introduce in more appropriate terms than those of a letter which passed between the biographers at the time.

John Addington to the Rev. James Everett.

Sturgeson Park, Nov. 3 1841

"DEAR SIR,

"On Saturday afternoon I attended a ceremony, the object of which was to honour the late William Sturgeson.

* *Autobiography*, I. p. 255.

Montgomery, by his immediate neighbours at the Mount. Allow me to add, I was as unexpectedly gratified to find you present on the occasion, as you will be surprised to learn that I was not aware of the fact; I wait till the receipt of the letter. On receiving a note from the wife of General Mitchell, Esq., I went up to the Mount, and found that with the ingenuity and perseverance of her sex, she had projected and matured a scheme for marking the current anniversary of the poet's birthday, her long connection with the present residence, and the intimate respect subsisting between herself and the poet, at the Mount, by inducing him to plant a tree on the lawn in front of the building. This was done upon the current anniversary of the poet's birthday by the ceremony; but the event—November 4th—fell the year before last, Sunday, Saturday last was selected. To the residents of the eight villas on the Mount, with some few exceptions, Mrs. Mitchell confined her invitations for this interesting little *fête champêtre*: accordingly, on Saturday afternoon, at half past five o'clock, the party escorted the poet, who that day completed his seventy-eighth year, from his door to the centre of the lawn, where the gardener presented a young beech tree,

'Not of the kind from which the poet wrought
The pastoral bowl, but that whose purple leaves
Tint with autumnal hues, in summer's prime,
The garden screen.'

which the good man, with the assistance of General Mitchell, duly planted in the spot prepared for his reception. Mrs. Mitchell said, 'Thank you, Mr. Montgomery, for your interest in planting the tree. I hope you will see its winters' growth in its branches, and many spring of beautiful foliage.' One or two juvenile Virgilians who were present, looked first at the poet and then at the beech, as if they would like to have added—

'Tityre, pascas oves in tegmine fagi,'

But in that case, the saddened response of the seniors, including the venerable poet himself, might be—

‘Carmina
Majoresque altis umbrae.’

One of the persons present having, in the name of the rest, congratulated Montgomery upon the ceremony they just witnessed, he proceeded, with much feeling, to deliver a short address, of which the following is the tenor:—‘If all that is done under the sun this day were to be recorded in a book, the transaction which we engaged would appear a very insignificant matter; but the planting of a tree in the midst of our little world of Mount, would become an event of every-day importance, assembling us to witness the introduction of a new object to our eye, a new companion of our walks within the pleasant enclosure, and a new association of images which memory may hereafter sometimes delight to dwell: the beauty of the day—the autumnal colouring of the scene—the spectacle of a living circle around this spot, where the young tree has found its standing among a member of our community, not recognised, indeed, by a baptism of water, but by the burial of its root (the source of its future growth) in the earth, thence to derive its nourishment, and under the gracious influence of the air and the sunshine, the showers and the dews of heaven, to flourish through all the gradations of the tree. I shall love this tree as my child, and you are the sponsors at its adoption by me, and will, I trust, condescend to regard it with a measure of kindness in remembrance of me this day, so glorious in the heavens above our heads, so fresh in the scenes around us, so refreshing in the verdure of its feet. When a man is born into the world there is only one thing that can be surely known concerning his destiny—namely, that he will die. Between the birth and the death there are numberless changes and contingencies, kept in the balance of

God, and never by searching to be known, till their gradual development — their mysteries are manifestly revealed, and ~~the~~ ~~purpose~~ understood. ~~When~~ ~~a tree~~ springs ~~out~~ of ~~the~~ ground, something ~~is~~ ~~may~~ be certified; and ~~then~~ I might ~~say~~ ~~in~~ my parable, ~~that~~ ~~prophesy~~ concerning ~~it~~ which ~~we~~ have ~~now~~ planted to-day, ~~shall~~ from henceforth, in ~~the~~ ordinary dispensation of Providence, ~~it~~ may ~~be~~ expected ~~to~~ rise ~~to~~ maturity, and there continue till, if spared by ~~any~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ storm, it has fulfilled every purpose for ~~which~~ it ~~was~~ created, ~~and~~ sustained through ~~its~~ appointed existence. ~~And~~ ~~how~~ will ~~it~~ ~~do~~ this? Simply by ~~never~~ losing ~~a~~ ~~moment~~ of time, ~~and~~ never mispending ~~one~~. Yet, should it ~~live~~ my ~~own~~ age, — this day is the last of seventy-seven years ~~of~~ days, fifteen of which I have spent on ~~this~~ spot, and ~~am~~ ~~on~~ verge of another, should I live ~~but~~ ~~the~~ morrow, — ~~among~~ ~~the~~ bright and the beautiful eyes of the young, who are looking upon it just now, ~~the~~ owner of ~~a~~ pair could fix its sight upon this tree, ~~and~~ continue gazing intensely ~~on~~ it through all its ~~stages~~ of perfection ~~and~~ decay, it would not be able to discover ~~the~~ secret of its growth ~~and~~ decline, from ~~one~~ moment ~~to~~ another; though from week to week, month to month, and year ~~to~~ year, measuring some, obvious change between each larger interval, ~~it~~ might ~~know~~ itself of the fact, that it never had ceased growing all ~~the~~ while ~~it~~ ~~seemed~~ stationary to the eye ~~and~~ ~~was~~ watching it. For, had the visible ~~growth~~ been suspended ~~for~~ for an instant, ~~it~~ would have required ~~a~~ new creation ~~and~~ the ~~same~~ principle within it, ~~to~~ ~~go~~ on as before ~~and~~ continue unceasing to ~~its~~ end. And ~~the~~ miracle (for so may it seem ~~to~~ our imperfect comprehension in what is placed beyond ~~our~~ ken of ~~the~~ ~~miracle~~, though wrought under ~~the~~ immediate presence) the ~~miracle~~ would have accomplished by what I ~~mentioned~~ ~~before~~—by simply never losing ~~a~~ ~~moment~~ of its time, nor mispending one. Time is ~~lost~~ by ~~not~~ occupying it; ~~is~~ mispent by ~~not~~ occupying it well. O how ~~soon~~ a being in your presence ~~could~~ ~~be~~ utterer of these ~~words~~ been, ~~in~~ ~~an~~ hour it could have been ~~born~~ of him, through seventy-seven years of pilgrimage on ~~the~~ (to borrow ~~the~~

language of an inspired prophet), "As the days of a [REDACTED] only [REDACTED] [REDACTED] days," not [REDACTED] only, but in the performance of duties! [REDACTED] otherwise, however, I [REDACTED] testify of myself. Time [REDACTED] lost in [REDACTED] employing it, [REDACTED] misspent in employing it ill. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] have I [REDACTED] by idleness, [REDACTED] millions more have I misspent, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] doing positive evil (though no small portion may [REDACTED] charged [REDACTED] [REDACTED] account), misspent [REDACTED] [REDACTED] doing [REDACTED] which [REDACTED] is good [REDACTED] [REDACTED] sight of God. It needs no [REDACTED] of humility [REDACTED] make this confession before my friends around me [REDACTED] [REDACTED] peculiar occasion, when they [REDACTED] delighting [REDACTED] [REDACTED] me honour, [REDACTED] I [REDACTED] only return, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] do, with gratitude. I [REDACTED] I have [REDACTED] gone beyond the licence of the occasion [REDACTED] pointedly personal: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] be out of place [REDACTED] [REDACTED] of [REDACTED], [REDACTED] I express my heart's desire and prayer, that we may henceforth, by the grace of God, which alone can enable us, — make the tree thus planted an example and [REDACTED] argument, that what the tree unconsciously, yet unvaryingly, does, [REDACTED] may conscientiously [REDACTED] heartily do [REDACTED] [REDACTED] times, and under all circumstances; [REDACTED] shall God, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] God, give [REDACTED] his blessing, [REDACTED] make [REDACTED] blessings to one another in our generation: so [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] be [REDACTED] of righteousness [REDACTED] of his own planting here; and in [REDACTED] Paradise above undying [REDACTED] of life, by the river of life flowing out of the throne of God and the Lamb.'

"The brightness of the day — the general beauty of [REDACTED] landscape — the [REDACTED] and venerable aspect of the speaker — [REDACTED] attention of [REDACTED] group which surrounded him — [REDACTED] thou- [REDACTED] associations of the past in his history — the light in which imagination [REDACTED] [REDACTED] after-interest of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] just planted, conspired [REDACTED] give [REDACTED] peculiar charm [REDACTED] [REDACTED] foregoing expressions.

"At the close of the address the company were invited by Mr. Mitchell to return to his house, and drink [REDACTED] glass of wine [REDACTED] honour of [REDACTED] occasion. Here, again, they found [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ingenuity of their [REDACTED] [REDACTED] provided [REDACTED] appropriate [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] day for the children present, in [REDACTED] shape of [REDACTED] dozen Testaments, each appropriately in-

scribed, and presented by the hand of Montgomery, and each bearing on its first leaf the following lines:—

“Behold the Book, whose leaves display
Jesus, the life, the truth, the way.
Read it with diligence ■■■ prayer:
Search it, and you shall find him there.

J. M.’

“In the interval of this proceeding ■■■ Mitchell, in ■■■ and suitable speech, expressed the thanks of himself and ■■■ Mr. Montgomery for ■■■ in ■■■ carrying out of ■■■ project wholly ■■■ (the speaker’s) ‘better half;’ ■■■ also ■■■ neighbours and friends who ■■■ favoured ■■■ with their presence ■■■ interesting occasion. I ■■■ reciprocated ■■■ compliment ■■■ behalf of myself and ■■■ present, assuring ■■■ worthy couple ■■■ the gratification ■■■ been ■■■ least ■■■ complete ■■■ the visitors as ■■■ could have been ■■■ themselves; and hoped I might add, also ■■■ him, whose memory would ■■■ tainly ■■■ perpetuated to future generations of ■■■ at the Mount, by that day’s proceedings, so long ■■■ ‘the Poet’s Tree’ should flourish on ■■■ adjacent lawn. It happened that Thomas Asline Ward, Esq., who ■■■ present, ■■■ the third volume of your ‘Life of Dr. Adam Clarke,’ just published, from which he read to the company your ■■■ of ■■■ visit ■■■ the Moravian establishment ■■■ Grace Hill, on the 3rd of May, 1830.

“The appropriate *finale* of ■■■ pleasing demonstration of reciprocal good-feeling between the ■■■ bard ■■■ immediate neighbours, was the presentation, by Mrs. Mitchell, of ■■■ embossed card, containing, besides the ■■■ of Montgomery, the date of his birth, and the word ‘Died —,’ ■■■ a ■■■ be ■■■ up hereafter. ■■■ mortuary aspect of ■■■ Gales a good deal: ‘It seems,’ said she to me in ■■■ whisper, ‘as if the good man ■■■ celebrating ■■■ own funeral!’ ■■■ there ■■■ no ■■■ that ■■■ poet adopted ■■■ method of admonishing

himself and his friends, that, apparently, there was 'but a step between him and death.'

"I am, dear sir,

"Yours, very truly,

"JOHN HOLLAND."

At the close of the proceedings, Mr. Holland accompanied Montgomery to his own house, next door to Mr. Mitchell's, and took tea with him and Mr. Gales. *Montgomery*: "I perceive Mr. Mitchell was reading a paper before the Philosophical Society, last night, on the Romano-British Wall; I should have been glad to have heard it, because I believe he lately examined the remains of this famous monument of the influence and domination of the Cæsars in Britain throughout its entire course; but I dare not go out at night; indeed, I feel quite exhausted with the little affair in which we have just been engaged; not by the labour, but with the excitement." *Holland*: "What a difference between your physical strength and that of Hutton, of Birmingham, of a similar age. In his 78th year, he walked from that town to Carlisle; thence along the line of the Roman wall to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, a distance of more than sixty miles, and back again!" *Montgomery*: "I recollect, he published an interesting account of his trip, which I read at the time. I was with him, though he never visited Sheffield; but I have known his daughter at Scarborough; she was a somewhat masculine-looking, but well and clever woman." *Holland*: "I should scarcely have expected the first item of your characteristic, after her father's example in his Life, which, if I recollect aright, was the effect that she was at the time of her birth, the first human being ever seen dressed; and that she put her into the drawer of his desk!" *Montgomery*:

"Such, at least, is my present recollection; and that she was mounted on a sort of old staid family horse; I like her father the better for that little bit of sentimentality, which suggested such a notion of his baby's bulk." The same day, Montgomery gave to Mrs. Mitchell the following lines, written on an embossed card:—

"Live long, live well, fair Beechen Tree!
And oh! that I might live like thee,
Never to lose ~~more~~ more,
As millions I have ~~before~~ before;
Nor e'er misspend ~~what~~ lent,
As millions past have been misspent;
Each in ~~his~~ place would then fulfil,
Our Maker and our Master's will.

"Moments to ages train a tree;
To man, they bring eternity.
Though as the tree falls, so it lies,
Man ends not thus, unless he rise,
His fall is final,— spirit never dies."

The foregoing lines contain a rather obvious thought, by no means artificially developed; yet it may be worth while to mention, as illustrative of the writer's ~~own~~ even about poetic trifles, that the slip of paper from which ~~this~~ copy, contains not fewer than six different versions! it is, indeed, as Montgomery remarked when giving it to W. Holland, "a *palimpsest* scrap,"—the fragment of an imitation of a Psalm, being decypherable through the *limas labor* of the last rescription.

Ebenezer Elliott, the "Corn-Law Rhymor," died on the 1st of December, and the publisher of the "Sheffield Independent," while preparing a memoir of the poet for that paper, wrote to Montgomery asking if he could furnish any particulars; the following was his reply:—

[REDACTED] *Montgomery to Robert Leader.*

"The Mount, Dec. ■ 1849.

"DEAR SIR,

"I am sorry that I cannot serve you with any information respecting the late [REDACTED] Ebenezer Elliott, ■ whose [REDACTED] I ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ till I received your letter. I do not [REDACTED] ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ having been for ■ hour in ■ company. Our occasional meetings ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ few, ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ short, ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ between, though he ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ known and admired by me as a poet before ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ world would either know ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ honour ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ such. He published several small volumes ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ intervals, the ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ scripts of which (mostly) he ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ confidentially submitted ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ me; and they had my best encouragement on the ground of their merit; but not one of these could command public attention, till he broke out in ■ ■ ■ 'Corn-Law Rhymes,' ■ ■ ■ Waller said of Denham 'like the Irish Rebellion, *forty thousand strong*, when nobody thought of such ■ ■ ■ thing.' Then, indeed, ■ ■ ■ compelled both astonishment and commendation from all manner of critics — Whig, Tory, and Radical, — reviewers vying with each other who should ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ magnanimously extol the talents which they had either ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ discovered ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ had superciliously overlooked, till, for their own credit, they could no longer hold their peace, or affect to despise ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ they had not had heart to acknowledge when their ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ would have done service ■ ■ ■ the struggling author. A few of his smaller pieces ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ their way into the 'Iris,' but I believe these ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ all republished by ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ in his succeeding miscarrying volumes. I, however, ■ ■ ■ quite willing to hazard ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ critical ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ by avowing my persuasion that, in originality, power, and ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ beauty — when ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ to ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ beautiful — he might have measured ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Byron ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ tremendous energy, — Crabbe, in graphic description, and Coleridge, ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ domestic tenderness; ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ in intense sympathy with ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ poor, ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ whatever ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ their wrongs or ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ings, he excelled them all, and perhaps every body ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

among his contemporaries in prose or verse. He was, in a sense, *Post of the poor*, whom, if always 'wisely,' I at least dare not say he loved 'too.' His personal character, his fortunes, his genius, would require, they deserve, a full investigation, furnishing an extraordinary study of his nature.

"I am, truly, your friend and servant,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

Leader, Esq., 'Independent' Office."

We have repeatedly adverted to the probable influence of the Moravian "Hymnology" on Montgomery's earliest boyish attempts at religious versification. In after years, when his poetical reputation was established, and when he came to take his place in the first rank of popular Hymn writers, the contrast between the precious but unpolished metres, in the singing of which he occasionally took part at Fulneck and Ockbrook, and his exquisitely perfect lyrics, forced upon the attention of the Brethren at those places and elsewhere. In the year 1825 he yielded to a general wish of the Provincial Conference of the Brethren's church, officially expressed, to undertake an entire revision of their large Hymn Book, two previous editions of which, in 1801 and 1826, had been prepared by the Moravian bishop Foster. The poet—who was to be allowed to take his own time for his task—was furnished with an interleaved copy of the book for the reception of his alterations and remarks, which were to be submitted to the judgment and decision of the Church. This volume before it exhibits a curious illustration of the *operandi* of the artist; some hymns yielding readily to the correcting touch, while others, which confessedly resisted all attempts at refinement or reconstruction,

were remitted unaltered by the poet ■■■■■ his clerical superiors.*

"The result of ■■■■■ was presented to ■■■■■ Provincial Conference of 1847, by which a committee ■■■■■ appointed ■■■■■ prepare for the press a ■■■■■ edition ■■■■■ the Brethren's Hymn Book, with ■■■■■ liberty from the venerable reviser to adopt, reject, ■■■■■ modify any of ■■■■■ proposed emendations. By the valuable service thus rendered, ■■■■■ by his kind permission to make free ■■■■■ of any of ■■■■■ compositions, he ■■■■■ ■■■■■ brethren and sisters under deep and lasting obligations."†

The labour which Montgomery bestowed upon this work, ■■■■■ only be apprehended by any one who will compare, ■■■■■ have done, the matter of the book ■■■■■ in ■■■■■ in the Brethren's English congregations with the text of the same book — if, indeed it ■■■■■ be called the same—previous to the last revision. The volume contains 1200 Hymns; and it ■■■■■ hardly too much to say, that the time and thought spent in the reformation of such a ■■■■■ of matter, much of it of a peculiar character, ■■■■■ not less than would have sufficed for the composition of a like quantity of original ■■■■■. Whether the result has been, in every respect, equal in value ■■■■■ the amount of toil and skill expended on the task, has been doubted by some persons; for the poet, having ■■■■■ ■■■■■ deal with compositions which had already undergone repeated ordeals of a similar kind ■■■■■ the hands of men who attached much ■■■■■ importance ■■■■■ directness of doctrinal meaning, and fervour of pious expression, than ■■■■■ anything like poetic euphony or grace, he was often compelled either to change ■■■■■ obsolete ■■■■■ equivocal term, to soften down a ■■■■■ striking

* ■■■■■ ■■■■■ of ■■■■■ unimprovable compositions.

† Preface to Large Hymn Book, 1849.

sentiment into a general meaning, or entirely remodel of a verse, or even of a whole hymn. The inevitable consequence of this procedure has been, while the greater portion of the book been rendered such almost any congregation of might adopt the sentiments, and any experienced poet approve to the style, many of the hymns have tainly a good deal of their original and peculiar flavour—their “race,” or, Dr. Johnson explains it, “the flavour of the soil on which they grew.”

But whether the allegation that the hymns question have become “tamer,” after each revival, be denied, a person who is at all acquainted with the compositions which were sung by the old Moravian settlers in this country, and their immediate successors, will dispute the infinite superiority of the current collection, suited to intelligence, the wants, the feelings, and the taste of every class of Christian worshippers at the present time. The earliest specimens of verse with which are acquainted, composed by Count Zinzendorf and his Brethren in England, for devotional are contained in three little volumes printed separately between the years 1746, and 1748, for James Hutton, a worthy, active, and respected member the Moravian church.* It may be sufficient say here of these volumes, that they consist, for the part, of compositions of a extraordinary character, than ever elsewhere in any language, assumed the form, and doubtless to those who used them *vide*, embodied the spirit of devotional poetry: indeed, it fairly be doubted, whether English types were before or since, used for such a singularly

* For interesting account Hutton, see “Lit. Anecdotes,” vol p.

collection of religious poems, printed as they too, in the form of prose paragraphs, to economise space. Happily, the three parts of this remarkable work contain quotations from their authors have sometimes been repudiated by general, and even by learned readers, as spurious and jocular. This curious book, after countering a large amount of severe, but unmerited criticism, from its friends and enemies of its patrons, gave place in 1788 to a new edition which was prepared by Bishop Gambold, and published by "authority": it is of large size; comprising between 1000 and 1200 compositions, of very diversified character, including many of Hutton's, and several of a wholly unobjectionable stamp by those popular Hymn writers of the eighteenth century, whose poems are in almost every modern collection. This work has formed the basis of repeated editions since 1789, each expurgated and refined in its turn, until the book has probably assumed its final and generally unexceptionable character, in the version issued in 1849, under the prudent and zealous operation of "Brother James Montgomery," and the authorities of the Brethren's Church in Great Britain.

CHAP. CVI.

1850.

OFFICE OF "INTERCESSOR."—MORAVIAN MEETING.—
 AFRICAN CLERGYMAN.—PUBLICATION OF MONTGOMERY'S WORK IN
 ONE VOLUME.—MISS ANKEN'S LECTURES.—PRESENTA-
 TION COPY.—WALK TO WORTON.—CONVERSATION.—SUMMARY
 TELEGRAPH.—MISTAKES ABOUT MORAVIANISM.—LETTER TO DR.
 HALL.—PAPAL AGGRESSION.—THE EPISCOPATE.—ARABIC FORM.—
 TREVINTON.—THE MORAVIAN CHARITY.—CONVERSATION.

As illustrating once a feature of the Moravian communities and the spirituality of Montgomery's mind, it may be mentioned that he was appointed, on several previous occasions, one of the "intercessors" of the Brethren's congregation at Fulneck, for the first quarter of this year. This office requires that the persons nominated to it "by lot, in the Elder's Conference," simultaneously devote a set evening in the week to prayer in behalf of the religious body to which they belong.

A public meeting in aid of the Moravian Mission was held in the school connected with St. George's church, Sheffield, the principal speaker being an African-born clergyman, of the name of Hanson, from Sierra Leone. Montgomery was much gratified, as well might be, with the candour, ability, and piety, which characterised the address of the eloquent stranger; the picture presented to the eyes of the audience, in one respect at least, hardly

striking. [] the venerable bard, who [] so often, in essay and in song, asserted and illustrated the brotherhood of humanity as between [] negro [] white oppressor,—his [] blanched with the frosts of nearly eighty winters, but with [] transparent [] rose-leaf; while beside him stood [] "son of Ham," highly educated, of gentlemanly [] and in holy orders, with his dark-coloured face, [] black and glossy [] the raven's plume!

The contrast—the coincidence—was not only affecting and beautiful in itself, but it seemed to embody, for the moment, [] realization of the hopes of the poet, [] indulged [] a period when, while many were hoping almost "against hope," he [] most sanguine in [] predictions of the triumph of the Gospel among the coloured []

The day following, Montgomery called, [] wished [] Holland to get for [] the volumes of the "Quarterly Review," for the years 1811-12. "I have," said he, "just been reading the third volume of the 'Life of Southey': I concluded it with painful feelings in [] the [] of ignorance and prejudice in which he speaks of evangelical religion in general, [] of Christian Missions in particular. I must, of course, have read the articles in question, when first published, but with [] interest, as not then certainly knowing who [] the author: besides, the letters just printed breathe a spirit of triumph on the part of the reviewer, both as [] his purpose and materials of defamation, that stimulates my curiosity to see how he really dealt with what [] evidently [] either understood or approved." [] "And yet he [] fancy himself proceeding with great candour as well as piety." *Montgomery*: "He was certainly unacquainted with, [] wilfully ignorant of, that which every []

hates, who stumbles, — did, — the — of the cross."

The following — an — from a letter addressed by the poet, to Mr. Nelson, of Fulneck*, — a testimonial — the abilities of — gentleman as an organist :

" Now, — — humble judgment, good congregational psalmody is — music — of heaven, — — resembling that which may be found in it, and there only in perfection, I — — old and approved — hymn tunes peculiarly calculated — prove — excellence. Their simple melodies and grave harmonies (easily learnt, — bared, — vocalised), — admirably — the capabilities — untaught individuals, of whom worshipping — generally consist; — that with small offence to — — they may lift up their hearts and their voices in songs which little children — warble, — angels might — disdain — join, if, coming into one of — sanctuaries, on — — Easter day they found that thus, — of — mouths of — and sucklings, God, even *their* God, — ordaining strength, while 'both young — — maidens, as well as old men,' were uniting in the chorus of all heaven and earth, — — especially exhorted in the — — 'praise the Lord.' Read that Psalm *particularly*, and see *what a choir of performers* are — to — — even in this poor world, and which, if *realised* (as it — spiritually — good congregational singing, however rude), would — inferior only to that which — whole company — — redeemed — — after the judgment, when they — entering together — kingdom of — Father, in — — triumphant Saviour."

At this time Mr. Holland — printing — volume of — — of Chantrey, the Sculptor, in Hallamshire and elsewhere." Montgomery, who took — lively — the subject, — only read — the proof-

— For whom the verses "On the Opening of an Organ" (Original Hymns, CCCIL.) were written.

sheets, but furnished some personal reminiscences for
book.

James Montgomery to the Rev. J. A. Latrobe.

"The Mount, April 21 1834

"REV. SIR,

"... I proceed once, briefly but earnestly, to
you for kindness which prompted you on
occasion, deeply interesting each of
special kind of service,—'the Service of Song,'
in Church of God, which we feel ourselves respectively
promote by our endeavours. Having
already before evidence of gift which you
for the edification of Christian worshippers in the sanctuary,
Family and the Closet, I may encourage you to continue
in the good work, and say, that, it is well in your heart
to conceive, it may be blessed in your hand to execute your
present purpose, and publish results of your labour
faith, in the good hope something to the staple Hym-
nology of congregational devotion, well to help in their
meditations on divine things, private individuals, who, next
Scripture language and lessons, find in 'psalms and hymns
and spiritual songs,' verbal happy utterance for thoughts,
feelings, emotions, beyond their own limited power of
expression. But I not expatiate here; the of
your letter settled in a few words. Though I
exhort you (when you have done your best to prepare
your materials), give your compositions to the world, rather
Church, you cannot calculate upon immediate
or extensive acceptance even by those who may
by a accession to the available stock of hymns
general use, — a stock indeed in comparison with
multitude in almost every collection, which are seldom,
and of them never, in public, and as little known
regarded in families. this, hymn books are so
universally, well diversely, published by clergymen and
of every denomination, and too often mangled under
pretence of being mended, an original volume with

difficultly command such attention as secure secure sale, or otherwise honoured, except by monious pillage appropriation of of as good may choose borrow and mutilate of their 'collections,' as they are modestly called, from wrecks of the popular 'collections,' been 'collected' from the seventeenth to nineteenth century. Accept my thanks for your proposal honour with inscription. I unfrequently applied by young poets such imaginary help; they, from inexperience and judging according own ingenuity partiality what has happened please them in writings, take for granted, my them than it can do for myself: this I am obliged to them plainly, and decline to not serve them thus. If you will far please me, to couch the inscription in the fewest possible words that can signify the fact of such compliment me, I shall the obligation the favour more than the most eloquent dedication that Dryden, that prince of dedicators, could himself have penned in your name, he contemporary. Accept the assurance of my sincere respect and esteem, your obliged friend.

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"REV. J. A. LATROBE, KENDAL"

James Montgomery to the Rev. J. A. Latrobe.

"MONTGOMERY 7.

"REV. DEAR SIR,

"I thank you heartily for meeting my difficulty on subject of the proposed inscription of your forthcoming Hymns myself, — in to which I pretend to any objection. What you say concerning Wordsworth me much, as corresponding nearly certain strictures of my own on characteristics of moral system, as developed especially throughout greatest 'The Excursion;' on work, at appearance, I a critique

'Eclectic Review;' I intimated, in language as I could, that he *forbore*, when he his solitary sceptic searching every other imaginable source, consolation hope, in his bewilderment of mind, — the poet *forbore* sending him to only fountain whence he be for a wounded spirit a heavy-laden soul,—the Gospel of Christ; the time frigidly as well as vainly, though with wonderful of splendour of illustration, ascribing to *healing influences of Nature through her elementary operations*, effects, which nothing but the grace of God produce intelligent-created being, human angelic. I not launch here; the subject has at times greatly perplexed me; and yet when most tempted by an evil heart of unbelief in my own bosom, I am the more condemningly convinced that we have been taught a better thing; namely, 'no cunningly devised fable,' but something absolutely true, that there can be no substitute for it in time or eternity. Our good old brother Gambold's hymn, 'That I thine, my Lord and God,' &c., however offensive to the self-righteous Jew foolish the worldly-wise Gentile (of which two classes, obsolete they nominally are, nominal Christians do really consist among cultivated minds),—how offensive or foolish to these, that humble, holy, fervent hymn be in language and in sentiment, reveals a personal *experience*, in comparison of which all the theories and speculations of philosophers philosophy falsely called, vanities of vanity, and vexations of spirit, utterly unappeasing the immortal part of mortal I off; I have neither hand heart proceed further than I could sit down, and sing myself that precious testimony, laying the whole emphasis of upon every line, especially the second clause of eighth

Ah! my heart throbs, and seizes
That covenant which will last,
Knows—it knows *things are true.*

May you and I and all who may hereafter read or sing our hymns, be enabled to witness the same good confession! I shall be very glad, when your volume comes to receive a copy; and if mine ever does so, I promise to return the change.

"I am very truly, your obliged friend and servant,

" J. MONTGOMERY.

" Rev. J. A. Latrobe, Esq.

The deep heart-utterances of the foregoing letter were, as the writer knew, made by one who thoroughly understood their import: and in this spiritual sympathy such of our readers as have received "like precious faith," will immediately participate. Mr. Latrobe, in due time, forwarded a copy of his book to Montgomery, who thus wrote in return:—

"I am conscientiously say, that, according to my judgment, as a literary performance, it is the most poetical of that class of which has appeared for many years, avowedly consecrated to the holiest and highest service, for the glory of God and the benefit of man. . . . Your 'Songs and Lyrics' are rather for reading and the Church; and therefore you have very properly ventured to adorn and illustrate your themes with more freedom of diction and splendour of imagery than has been attempted in such compositions by modern minstrels."

After several references to particular poems, some of which we have elsewhere quoted (vol. i. p. 55.), we give the following verbal criticism:—

"You repeatedly use '*neath*,' to my horrid mangling of the word '*beneath*:' you may plead high (but *early*) authorities; but no authority can justify it, as I think."

May 6. Montgomery presided, as usual, at the

Wesleyan Missionary Anniversary in [redacted] Immediately before the hour of commencement, the Rev. [redacted] D. Waddy called [redacted] [redacted] Mount with a carriage [redacted] [redacted] the poet, whom he found busy opening a parcel which [redacted] had just received by the carrier — "There," said he, laying on a helping hand, "pull [redacted] [redacted] of these books, and put it into your pocket; it is the first copy of my poems in the [redacted] edition, which has gone into circulation, and you may be pleased to accept it on that account, if on no other." The publishers [redacted] instructed [redacted] transmit a copy to [redacted] Aikin, for which that lady returned the following vivacious [redacted] acknowledgment:—

[redacted] Aikin to James Montgomery.

"Wimbledon, May [redacted] 1850.

"ACCEPT my best thanks, my dear old friend, for [redacted] token of continued [redacted] remembrance which I have received from you in the shape of a copy of the [redacted] edition of your poems. I rejoiced [redacted] [redacted] them in a shape so accessible [redacted] 'the million,' to [redacted] a fashionable phrase [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] gigantic notions. I rejoiced [redacted] find them retaining all their popularity after [redacted] many years, [redacted] thus giving proof how [redacted] an echo they [redacted] in the hearts and imaginations of readers.

"It pleased [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] that you [redacted] retained [redacted] [redacted] vigour [redacted] continue writing, [redacted] [redacted] undertake [redacted] labour of conducting [redacted] goodly a volume through [redacted] press. [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] could still exert such energies! [redacted] I have long given up the use of the pen from discouragement, and [redacted] myself with feeding on [redacted] minds of others, and [redacted] introducing young spirits [redacted] the works of [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] masters.

"Here, [redacted] Wimbledon, I [redacted] under [redacted] roof [redacted] my [redacted] Charles's [redacted] daughter, [redacted] Le Breton, with [redacted]

eight children, mostly girls, so objects of interest were wanting to me.

"The particular account of you which I heard, was from my old friends, the Aston Yates's, and a very pleasant picture they drew of you in your retirement. It seemed as if your health continued good, which I hope that you yet exchange gallantries with the Muses]. I am persuaded your poetical temperament retains its elasticity best of all. I used to observe this in Mrs. Barbauld, who never lost the youthfulness of fancy. My dear brother Arthur, now my only brother, continues to occupy himself with chemistry. He lectures on this science at Guy's Hospital, employing himself very diligently in the many analyses which he is employed to make for various purposes. A happier old man I nowhere know, and certainly not a more benevolent one.

"You never visit London now, I fear; and, for my longest journeys, for several years past, have gone no farther than the eight miles between London and London. In this world, therefore, in human probability, we shall meet no more; but we may still think of each other with affection, and hope to meet in that world whither so many of our friends and dearest have taken their flight before us, where we soon join them. Farewell, and believe me

"Yours sincerely,

"LUCK ALLEN.

"Montgomery, Esq."

May Montgomery and Miss Gales accompanied Mr. Holland Norton, to look at Chantrey's grave in the churchyard, and at his monument in the chancel. A medallion portrait on the tablet appeared to interest the poet: "It reminds me," said he, "of a visit I paid to the sculptor with my friend Daniel Parken: we had previously been upon Montagu, and when we got out of Chantrey's room, my friend de-

clared that I [redacted] introduced [redacted] that day [redacted] two of the [redacted] men [redacted] had ever seen." Adverting [redacted] [redacted] work which Mr. [redacted] was printing—*Montgomery*: "You [redacted] not, [redacted] your [redacted] of Chantrey, forget [redacted] tion his ancestor, 'old Chantrey, the huntsman,' who, [redacted] the [redacted] [redacted] could make [redacted] voice heard from Norton Hall [redacted] Coal Aston, yonder, [redacted] than a mile distant: he [redacted] have [redacted] [redacted] long voice, which [redacted] something more than [redacted] loudness." *Holland*: "I have [redacted] only mentioned him in my book, but [redacted] introduce you to [redacted] full-length portrait of him in the Hall here." After looking [redacted] the curious old painting, [redacted] re-crossed the churchyard, Montgomery lingering with admiration beside a fine, but venerable yew tree, the bole of which "we three" could scarcely altogether embrace. Walking towards *Mag-o'-th-hay*, [redacted] the "Bowling-green house" is called—*Montgomery*: "I never could make out the meaning of that odd name, it sounds like Irish." *Holland*: "I never doubted that it signified *the magpie* [redacted] [redacted] *haycock*." *Montgomery*: "You may be right; but it [redacted] spelt *Maugherhay* in the early parish records.

May 31. *Montgomery*: "Come, Mr. Holland, I [redacted] you [redacted] go up with [redacted] [redacted] tea; and you need not hesitate about riding with me in the cab, for it costs me nothing; a kind friend having secured to me this indulgence whenever I desire it." *Holland*: "I [redacted] glad of it, for your sake; as I am [redacted] you sometimes walk, when you [redacted] unable; I hope you will not allow such [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] become [redacted] dead letter." *Montgomery*: "I am [redacted] my friend does not wish [redacted] to do so." He [redacted] not name the generous individual [redacted] whom he was indebted for this really considerate [redacted] of kindness.

August [redacted] *Montgomery*: "What is the most surprising occurrence of this week?" *Holland*: "Beyond all question, [redacted] deposition and working of the sub-

marine telegraph between Dover and Calais." **Montgomery**: "Is the line of communication actually completed?" **Holland**: "It is." **Montgomery**: "Then, there is *that* thing still more wonderful, namely, that everybody wonders at the achievement! it is that every one comprehends either the principle, the action, or the importance of the thing; but science is accomplishing such mighty triumphs almost every day, that a sort of popular indifference seems to be the result, where direct practical utility is involved in the issue."

September 10. "J. M., and J. J. M., and **U. G.**, will be glad to see J. H. at the Mount this evening tea." On receiving this laconic invitation, Mr. Holland went to the Mount, and found there the Rev. John James Montgomery, the poet's nephew, and his wife. As a new Roman Catholic church was to be opened in Sheffield the next day, the conversation turned mainly upon the early struggles and sufferings of the Moravians in their testimony against Popery.

In reply to the remark, that the church of the United Brethren had been charged with retaining a few *scarlet threads* of the old Romish vestment, the Rev. J. J. M. said they might perhaps, at some time, be fairly chargeable with something of the kind, when certain of their ministers wore a *red sash*, but that ornament was discontinued. It was curious to observe how much ignorance often existed, even among persons otherwise intelligent, in reference to the history and customs of the Brethren. He had recently conversed with a clergyman of some note, who mentioned, that the "Moravian Church originated with Count Zinzendorf rather than a century ago!" That, as "it adopted the Augsburg confession of faith, its ministers held the doctrine of consubstantiation!"

"its settlements in ■■■ country ■■■ elsewhere ■■■ merely modified conventual establishments!!!" Mr. Montgomery admitted ■■■ ■■■ ignorance ■■■ in part, perhaps, due ■ the fact, that, ■■■ only are the Moravians often but slightly accounted of even by the best ecclesiastical writers, but they have no separate history worthy of the respect which is ■ least due ■ them ■■■ ancient episcopal church of Christ; nor ■■■ character of Count Zinzendorf much better understood in England, where even Spangenberg's Life of him ■ comparatively unknown. Rev. J. J. ■■■ the Brethren, having been relieved from persecution in modern times, had ■ entirely occupied themselves with preaching the gospel in a non-controversial manner, and with the direction of those important missionary agencies which it had pleased God to accompany with such signal success, that they had found no time ■ court ■ satisfy merely curious investigation; but not unmindful of the importance of ecclesiastical records, ■ large ■■■ of valuable documents relative to the ancient ■■■ of the church in Bohemia, had been ■■■ time since discovered and secured by the Brethren in Germany, and might hereafter be rendered available for historical purposes. Montgomery mentioned that he had just received from London, and presented ■ the Sheffield Philosophical Society, ■ fragment of tessellated Roman pavement*, which had been dug up in preparing the foundations of the Royal Exchange.

John Charles Hall, M.D., of Sheffield, having edited Pickering's American work ■ "The Races of Men," with ■ introduction of ■ own, ■■■ Montgomery a copy, which ■■■ acknowledged in the following letter :

* ■ is now in the Society's Museum.

James Montgomery to Dr. J. C. Hall.

"The Mount, Sheffield, Oct. 12. 1850.

"DEAR FRIEND,

"I have forborne making the acknowledgment of your acceptable gift of a volume* peculiarly interesting, and I may say (for myself), peculiarly instructive on most curious subjects of the human mind. I say I have forborne this acknowledgment I could not have done the first justice due to a work, namely, to give it a fair reading, and, after having done so, add, that it is worthy of another and more perusal. As I have gone through the original narrative, I have made many marks for future reference, that, though the 'Journal of a Voyage round the World,' may be deemed a dry log-book by those who seek for excitement, I felt myself unweariedly engaged in picking up minute particulars along the way, for the enrichment of my treasure-house of memory and the proportionate improvement of my knowledge of human nature, in its diversified aspects—physical, social, moral, and intellectual. With these, they are manifested in the Pacific Isles, from crude barbarism to the present stage of their transition to comparatively civilised and Christianised refinement of corresponding spirituality of life, under the influence of the Gospel; with these, I say, I have been so long and familiarly acquainted through my missionary connections, that I can better comprehend and estimate the actual condition of those people who lately dwelt in darkness, under the influence of the great light which has shone upon the regions where their forefathers dwelt through a long succession of generations,—I have again picked up the broken thread of

* "The Races of Men, and their Geographical Distribution," by C. Pickering, M.D. : to which is prefixed, an "Analytical Synopsis of the Natural History of Man," by J. C. Hall, M.D. London : H. G. Bohn, 1850.

interminable sentence, by saying that I, under these circumstances, ■■■■■ society in ■■■■ parts than the ■■■■ observer who ■■■■ suddenly ■■■■ do; for he, without any correct antecedent information, ■■■■ all knowledge on the subject ■■■■ acquire, and ■■■■ report nothing but what he ■■■■ with ■■■■ eyes, ■■■■ judged according to his necessary ignorance ■■■■ in- ■■■■ influence — ■■■■ the spirit of ■■■■ moving upon ■■■■ face of the waters — which, to a great degree, ■■■■ renewed human ■■■■ itself in those paradisaical ■■■■ of ■■■■ West. Yet ■■■■ me ■■■■ through his wilderness ■■■■ was ■■■■ of California, ■■■■ which particles of precious ■■■■ may be found ■■■■ every step by the curious ■■■■ ■■■■ sifting hand, that ■■■■ discern gold dust from the ■■■■ of pebbles and cockle-shells. I have collected ■■■■ pretty ■■■■ of these, of which I may make some use if I have occasion again to go over with pen and ink the ground which I once occupied in the South Seas, through ■■■■ large missionary volumes.—Of your ‘Synopsis of the Natural History of Man,’ I may say that I have been not only gratified, but instructed by the diligent perusal. This acknowledgment of the obligation due from me on the occasion you should have ■■■■ a week ■■■■ but when ■■■■ had begun the letter I ■■■■ interrupted, and the conclusion necessarily postponed by a visit ■■■■ Bakewell, which ■■■■ me two days, ■■■■ left me in arrears of other epistolary debts. I am, very truly,

“Your obliged friend and servant,

“J. MONTGOMERY.

“J. C. Hall, Esq., ■■■■

Nov. 15. Mr. Holland called ■■■■ the Mount, and found Montgomery, ■■■■ entered ■■■■ his eightieth year, reading, with ■■■■ usual deep feeling, ■■■■ Gales, the morning portion of the “Psalms for the day,” from ■■■■ Prayer-Book. On the conclusion of this pious exercise, the conversation turned upon the ■■■■ invasion of ■■■■ English see of Canterbury by a Romish

archbishop, Cardinal Wiseman. "Amidst all the talk of apprehension just excited by the papal aggression on the Protestantism of England, my opinion is, that no effective opposition be offered to the presumptuous act of the Pope. Mutually the Church of England, the Dissenters, and the Methodists, profess to hate popery, yet, immediately, and practically, I am afraid, they mistrust each other much and do not heartily in any movement which might lead to recognise an evangelical parity, or to place their respective religious rights on a Scriptural ground." *Montgomery*: "So you say; but whatever may be the reason, the fact, I believe, will prove that they will not act cordially together, and therefore they had better let Cardinal Wiseman alone; for, much as I admire the spirit and sentiments of Lord John Russell's letter to the Bishop of Durham, I think, with you, that the temper of the times in this country is little favourable to the idea of direct legal interference with the hierarchical arrangements for the more perfect spiritual supervision in a church whose right to the common liberty of every other party, has been so lately, and in the face of so much opposition and scrutiny, asserted and legalised." *Holland*: "And with such experience before them, it is still more remarkable how much of the violent opposition of Cardinal Wiseman's mission seek the ground on which they expect co-operation. For example, thousands of copies of a form of petition have been circulated, and one of which I have received, inviting my signature, not mainly on the ground of anything objectionable in the mission, *per se*; not merely because 'any foreign prince or potentate hath not, nor ought to have, any jurisdiction in these realms,' but, forsooth, on 'a fundamental maxim of Christian dis-

cipline, that there can be but one bishop in one bishopric.' Now, if nothing of the recognised episcopacy in the Romish Church in Ireland and in the colonies, let us suppose that in England, or in America, the Methodists were to adopt, as they have sometimes been charged with a disposition for adopting, an episcopal designation and procedure among a portion of their ministers, and at the same time to change the whole, or any number of their 'districts' into bishoprics, I do not demand for them—much as, of course, I should deprecate such a movement on other grounds—the religious right and power to act. Such a movement, therefore, I cannot sign." *Montgomery*: "Neither can I sign it, on account of a much stronger objection. Your case, although perfectly proper, is hypothetical: mine is one of real existence—the residence and authority over the Brethren's congregations in this country, of our Moravian bishops; and who, although they are spiritual fathers of a church actually owning a foreign jurisdiction, have been long since recognised, in their official character, by Act of Parliament. They had, in my opinion, better let Dr. Wiseman alone." After some further conversation on the subject of the Romish movement, the poet took up a volume, and read—

"I beheld, in the midst of the throng,

A person in emaciated frame,

In the garb of pilgrimage, and with a plaintive voice,

Was closing his discourse with gorgeous phrases,

And striking all with warnings of admonition;

And the crowdings of the throng gathered round

him,

Like a halo round the face of the meek and lowly

fruit."

Montgomery: "What do you think of that, is it a

sample of the contents of [redacted] book?" [redacted] "I [redacted] neither comprehend [redacted] subject [redacted] [redacted] style, the [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] species of 'numerous prose.'" The poet then placed the volume [redacted] the hands [redacted] his friend; it [redacted] "Makamat; [redacted] Rhetorical Anecdotes [redacted] Al Hariri of Basra," [redacted] Arabic work of singular wild- [redacted] variety, and graphic effect, which [redacted] just been presented [redacted] Montgomery by [redacted] Rev. M. Preston, vicar of Cheshunt, the father of the translator. Being [redacted] [redacted] lend Wordsworth's "Prelude,"—*Montgomery*: "You may have it presently; but I am [redacted] reading [redacted] carefully through a second time, in order thoroughly [redacted] understand the author. The least poetical, though [redacted] the least curious portion of the book, is that in which the poet records his political metamorphoses; I [redacted] not previously [redacted] [redacted] had ever been such a Jacobin!" Have you read Tennyson's 'In Memoriam?'" *Hol-land*: "Yes; but it is much too transcendental for my taste, the [redacted] the pity, I suppose, so far [redacted] my [redacted] loss of enjoyment is concerned!" *Montgomery*: "I am myself much in your predicament; I have [redacted] the poem carefully, I should say, resolutely through, which I suspect not [redacted] other persons in [redacted] have done; but I confess I [redacted] enjoy it. The title-page itself [redacted] an affectation of unmeaning simplicity, [redacted] much so, indeed, that I, who [redacted] not otherwise, in [redacted] poet's secret, was [redacted] time before I could make [redacted] [redacted] subject from the opening [redacted] which, while they flowed [redacted] smoothly and brightly as transparent oil [redacted] a polished surface, might apply to a butterfly, [redacted] a bird, or a lady, as well as [redacted] [redacted] individual who I [redacted] [redacted]

* Poor Haydon, [redacted] his deeply-affecting Autobiography, quotes Sir G. [redacted] as speaking [redacted] Wordsworth's "tarrific [redacted] notions," [redacted] 1809, Vol. i. [redacted]

■ while, ■ indicated ■ their subject. If I ■ published such ■ volume forty years since, ■ only would the public have turned up their ■ but Jeffrey would have ■ down on both knees to curse me ■ more earnestly. But times and ■ have altered; and Tennyson ■ the poet of the day.*

In a few days, this conversation ■ followed by the official ■ that Alfred Tennyson had been appointed Poet Laureate.

Thomas Deakin, Esq., of Sheffield, who ■ the month of August in the preceding year, having left by will the ■ of three thousand pounds towards the founding of a charity for elderly unmarried women, ■ condition that a like sum of three thousand pounds should be raised by others, within two years after the death of the testator, Montgomery willingly joined ■ number of gentlemen in ■ effort to realise this benevolent object.† ■ also took part in what some of ■ townspeople regarded ■ a ■ questionable proceeding, namely, to join in calling, and seconding a resolution at, an anti-catholic meeting. The resolution, indeed, ■ simply ■ expressive of gratitude to Lord John Russell for his ■ admirable letter to the Bishop of Durham, ■ the thoroughly Protestant spirit which breathed

* Mr. Brimley, in a most elaborate paper in the "Cambridge Essays, 1856," not only compares Tennyson with Bacon, Byron, and Dryden, ■ gravely assures ■ that "what Shakspeare ■ Chaucer did for the ages they lived in, Mr. Tennyson ■ doing for our age after his measure!"

† This ■ design was substantially accomplished on the ■ of August, 1861, ■ which day, Montgomery ■ gentlemen, ■ of the subscribers, formally paid ■ a Sheffield bank, the sum of 3000*l.*, and then received and re-deposited, in the name of "the Deakin Charity," 6000*l.*, to be ■ and distributed in conformity with the will of the ■

through it; and a promise of support to his Lordship in all his endeavours to neutralise the aggressive policy of Rome. The proposition was objected to by a party in the meeting, on the ground of its inconsistency, — his Lordship having, it was alleged, previously acted in a way towards the Papists as might well encourage those aggressions of which those complained of; nor the few words used by Montgomery, — “I second the resolution with all my heart,” escape popular animadversion. On the subject being afterwards mentioned to the poet, he replied that, as he had never been a thorough-going party-man, he had never sought to please persons who were such, either in religion or politics, however cordially he might have been welcomed when agreeing in the views, or however courteously borne with, if he happened to differ from the opinions of those with whom he acted. In the present case, he need only say, that as he entirely agreed with Lord John Russell in reference to the necessity, if not in the extent of, Parliamentary Reform; so he agreed with him generally in reference to Catholic emancipation; but he perfectly agreed with him in the present protest against the recent acts of Papal aggression.

Dec. 11. The biographers walked together to the Mount, and found Montgomery just returned into the house, a good deal exhausted by the boisterous weather he had encountered in his walk from the town. After the exchange of salutations — *Everett*: “My dear sir, I am delighted to see you looking so well: you are as fresh as a rose.” *Montgomery*: “I ought to appear so; I have been out of doors, full blown, all the way up the hill. I am glad to see you in such comparatively good health — the result of hard work, I suppose.” *Everett*: “It may be so; for I have

travelled, since my expulsion from the Wesleyan body, more miles than are contained in the circumference of the globe; but great principles are involved in the present controversy, and I dare not, while I have strength, and my services appear to be required, desist from the labour, or shrink from the reproach of my position." *Montgomery*: "I know but little of your movements, though I sometimes pass a certain mischief-shop, where I am tempted to purchase the 'Wesleyan Times' newspaper." *Everett*: "You are quite right in keeping out of the controversy. When will you come to us at York?" *Montgomery*: "I neither make promises, nor entertain hopes of visits to a distance." *Holland*: "But I have pledged Mr. Everett that you and I will visit York when he and Conference are reconciled." *Montgomery*: "Yes, I promise you that I will go with you then."

Dec. 31. The poet called, and placed in Mr. Holland's hand the current number of "Periodical Accounts of the Moravian Missions." Having allowed his friend to read an article descriptive of "trials and bereavements" at the Tobago station of "Montgomery," which was underscored, he said, "I mainly brought the publication down to show you a passage in brother Gardin's letter from the Danish island of St. Croix—it is the description of a rainbow." The passage runs as follows:—"I had twice, during my residence here, seen a lunar rainbow. Each time it had a little colour; but when, on the 1st of December, 1849, I came out of the church, at nine o'clock in the evening, after holding our services for the conclusion of the old year, Friedensfield [the settlement] seemed to be encircled in a large bright lunar rainbow, that exhibited the colour of a common one; and it was double—a truly wonderful and splendid sight!"

CHAP. CVII.

1851.

DEATH OF DR. SUTTON, VICAR OF SHEFFIELD — LETTER TO JOHN HOLLAND. — CONVERSATION — FRANKLY — PALACE — ON A PET DOG — AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION. — "QUAKERING." — PRESENT A COWN. — THE POET'S BIRTH-DAY. — PLANTS IN THE GROUNDS — LETTER — ACKNOWLEDGMENT — LETTER TO J. EVERITT.

ON the 9th of January, 1851, died the Rev. Thomas Sutton, D.D., vicar of Sheffield, after an incumbency of forty-six years; a period which, through his official instrumentality in various ways, had been fraught with great advantages to a very wide and populous parish. During the whole term of his very active and useful ministry, Montgomery had co-operated with the vicar and his clergy in every religious, benevolent, and social movement; and when the good man was borne to his grave, in the chancel of that ancient and beautiful church where he had so long and zealously laboured to do his "Master's will," amid the train which joined with the family of the deceased, in paying the tribute of personal respect to the numerously attended funeral, there was not, we venture to say, a more sincere mourner than "the Christian Poet."

March. The winter of 1850-1 was unusually mild; the poet consequently complained less of the severity of the weather than he was wont to do; but the

early spring of ■■■ year was marked by an extraordinary amount of mortality from influenza. Montgomery himself escaped the malady; but he rarely called upon ■■■ Holland without communicating or receiving intelligence of some fresh instance of ■ fatal result among his old friends ■ townspeople. "We ■■ all dying," he often said, with solemn emphasis; and not the least so, when reminded that he ■■ *ultimus Romanorum* — the only well-known survivor of his octogenarian contemporaries in Sheffield. His interest in literary subjects, if less constant and lively than in former years, showed no diminished perception of the merits of ■■ dead and living poets. He ■■ particularly animated in defence of Collins, in reply to ■ remark that the latter had been overrated; especially did he repudiate the allegation that the author of the "Odes," &c., owed his acknowledged reputation, at the present day, mainly to the good luck of having been included in Johnson's "Lives of the Poets." He then produced a little tale, printed in Sheffield, and which had been sent to him by the author. "Here," said he, "is ■ strange assertion, made with a confidence which puzzles me: not only does Paul Rogers describe Milton ■■ being the friend of Cromwell and Colonel Spencer, but he declares that, 'as well ■■ having business with Colonel Spencer, Milton had great pleasure in visiting Bramley Grange, because there it ■■ that Edmund Spenser had, near ■ century previously, written at least a portion of that divine poem, the "Faëry Queene." Now, pray ■■■■ tain whether there exists any local tradition ■ this effect. ■ remember Bramley Grange very well, having often passed it, and admired its quiet, old-fashioned look, during my residence ■ Wath in the last century."

Holland: "I, too, know ■■■ antiquated-looking ■■■ very well, standing, ■■■ does, ■■■ the road between ■■■ and Roche Abbey; but assuredly there is no such local tradition attached ■■■ it, as ■■■ implied in ■■■ tale, and, of course, there is not the shadow of ■■■ historical hint, nor, indeed, of anything like probability, that either of the ■■■ great English poets ever visited these parts of the kingdom under any circumstances." *Montgomery*: "You ■■■ aware that there were, at and before the time of the Commonwealth, members of the family of Spencer, living both ■■■ Attercliffe and ■■■ Bramley Grange; and taking quite ■■■ active a part in the affairs of that stirring period ■■■ is represented in this little story. What says Mr. Hunter?" *Holland*: "He makes large mention of the Hallamshire family, but intimates that the nearest approach even to ■■■ hypothetical probability of original alliance between the parties named, is the fact that William Spencer, of Bramley Grange, on seeking and obtaining ■■■ grant of arms in 1648, described his grandfather, John Spencer, of Sheffield, ■■■ having come 'out of Northamptonshire,' the county whence sprung the families of the poet, and those which have added to the ■■■ the honours of nobility."

May 5. Bitter cold day — rain and snow falling. *Holland*: "I am glad to ■■■ you, sir; but really you ought not ■■■ be out of doors at all in such weather ■■■ this." *Montgomery*: "You ■■■ right; but I have been ■■■ the old women's meeting ("Aged Female Society") which I considered it ■■■ duty to attend, in the absence of ■■■ many others, better able to ■■■ out, ■■■ I am now become ■■■ old woman myself!" Taking up ■■■ original edition of Quarles's "Divine Poems," he read several ■■■ and commented on their "preciousness and beauty," ■■■ same time claiming, as ■■■

always did, respect for the piety and ingenuity of a poet whose very quaintness is sometimes charming. I adverted, with lively interest, to the "Letters" of Jackson of Exeter, published in 1784, in which the earliest appeal in behalf of the merits of Quarles, against the name of Pope, is generously made by the writer.

James Montgomery to John [redacted]

"The Mount, Feb. 22. 1851.

"MY DEAR FRIEND,

"I am either [redacted] or you *invisible*; [redacted] may [redacted] [redacted] Day after day since we last met, I have sought you in your haunts without being able to [redacted] you; but as the loss of one sense quickens another, and the blind may [redacted] said to see with their [redacted] and the deaf to hear with their eyes, I have [redacted] hearing for seeing, and have been glad to learn you have been improving so manifestly, that this forenoon [redacted] Wells reported you almost convalescent in *appearance*; what you [redacted] in fact, you yourself alone can tell; but I will not only hope but believe the best, and as I cannot probably for a week [redacted] ascertain [redacted] [redacted] sult of daily bulletins, I write [redacted] say that I am rather [redacted] pectedly [redacted] Fulneck, my sister-in-law having been alarmingly ill of late; but by yesterday's post the intelligence was more favourable. I am, therefore, in [redacted] hurry of huddling a few necessaries together for a visit of a week, 'if the Lord will,' [redacted] expect [redacted] reach Fulneck to-morrow evening. You [redacted] not forward any [redacted] [redacted] unless I am [redacted] longer, of which Miss [redacted] will [redacted] intelligence. Deeply sympathising [redacted] your [redacted] affliction, [redacted] heartily praying [redacted] you may [redacted] restored [redacted] health, [redacted] the blessing of [redacted] through Jesus [redacted] Saviour,

"I am, truly, your friend,

"JAMES MONTGOMERY.

"Mr. [redacted] [redacted]

May. Although unable to join the townspeople in any of their local proceedings with reference to soliciting funds and selecting manufactures for the "Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations," which remarkably distinguished the activity and annals of England for that year, the poet read with intense anxiety the various published details of progress from laying the foundation to the auspicious opening of the unexampled of the far-famed Crystal Palace. He often adverted to the striking fact, a fact in itself illustrative of the free thought and independent action of the that all the architects of Europe, of the world, had been directly invited to furnish plans, from the aggregate of which, at all events, it intended to obtain a model for this grand erection; and after many beautiful professional designs had been tendered and admired, and, in fact, some of them officially approved, a provincial gardener should forward with a scheme, so simple, so novel, and withal so appropriate, that the royal commissioners found themselves compelled, against all opposition, to adopt it! And yet, with the instincts of timidity natural to an old man, Montgomery's apprehensions for the stability of Mr. Paxton's portentous experiment of iron and glass, stone and slate, were frequently excited and expressed during the period of erection. "Gales is frightened at the apparent fragility of the building," said the poet, than once, evidently sympathising with the sentiment, successive engravings of the skeleton of the made the public familiar with the details of a of art so wholly unprecedented in the combined advantages of lightness and capacity. In common with others, however, he yielded at this point; and entered fully into the moral, commercial, and political considerations to which this venturous

THE "GREAT EXHIBITION."

and much-landed project ■ the Prince Consort so ■
turally ■ rise: indeed, so strong ■ ■ convictions
of the utility of the Exhibition as a symbol of good-
will, ■ ■ "a bond of peace among ■ nations,"
become, that he literally wept for joy, when he read in
the "Times" an account of the auspicious inaugura-
tion ■ the ■ of May, by the Queen in ■

June 18th. Mr. Holland, on mentioning a quotation from Chaucer, which appeared in several of the papers*, was strikingly descriptive of the "Great Exhibition," that the old poet might have had a bird's eye view of it, was struck by the facility with which Montgomery instantly recollected the "Temple of Glas," a poem, attributed by Warton to Stephen Hawes, or Lydgate; and still he surprised to find not only that our friend could say —

“ Methought that I ~~was~~
Ravished in spyrite into a *Temple of Glas*,
I ~~was~~ wist how ;” —

but ■ learn that he had actually made up his mind ■ visit London along with ■■ Galea, to ■■ for himself the wonders of that "Crystal Palace," which actually surpassed the dreams of poetry, ancient ■ modern. They went under the convoy of their neighbour Mr. Mitchell, who had arranged ■ halt ■ Cambridge, the poet evidently enjoying his morning's stroll in some of ■■ beautiful College grounds.

A little incident of the journey may be mentioned. On the train stopping for a minute ■■■ of the smaller stations, ■ gentlemanly-looking "first-class" passenger, who ■ opposite ■ Montgomery in the carriage, ■ nounced that ■ ■ *Welwyn. Montgomery*: "This,

* Copied from "Notes and Queries."

then, once the residence and rectory of Young."

Gentleman: "What Young?" *Montgomery:* "Dr. Young, the author of 'Night Thoughts.'"

"Indeed; I heard of him." It may be imagined how quickly the poet retreated into his shell of silence such a response!

Fixing himself at Woolwich with his relations, Montgomery only paid a single visit to the Exhibition in Hyde Park, where his attention was particularly directed to a compartment which received but slight notice from spectators in general, and even from the authors of the various glowing accounts of the collection which appeared in different publications at the time—we allude to the printed specimens of the whole or parts of the Holy Scriptures, in 165 lan-

James Montgomery to John

"Woolwich, July 4. 1851.

"MY FRIEND,

"I live in such a hurry here that I pretend to write a letter. We are on tiptoe at a house by land and near the Zoological Gardens, on the other side of the world of London, and I can barely spare a minute to say we are pretty well,—that is, Sarah and I,—though I have been pretty ill these three days past. If spared in life and health, we hope to see you next Saturday week. We propose to travel by the Great Northern Railway, and to be in London in the evening. Lord bless you and keep you, and all whom you love.

"I am, truly, your obliged friend,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"P.S. On this day I recollect that forty-seven years ago I was in London, and the first number of the 'Iris' was

published in my absence. Pray, if you ———
 ——— Mount, namely, Fanny, Ellen, and Violet*, ——— expect us.
 “ ——— Holland, Esq., ——— ”

August. *Holland*: “Excuse me, sir, for venturing
 ——— make a suggestion: the eightieth anniversary of
 your birthday ——— approaching: should you be spared ———
 ——— that season, I wish you would mark it, by dating
 thereon the Preface ——— your long-talked-of collection
 of ‘Original Hymns,’ ——— there would be, in my opinion,
 ——— singular appropriateness in the association of such ———
 work with such ——— season.” *Montgomery*: “Pray what
 has put such ——— notion ——— that into your head?” *Hol-*
land: “The obvious consideration that it would make

— The two servants, and a little canine favourite — the Mount
 The latter, with the luck of pet animals, came to an untimely end
 — few weeks afterwards, when the poet twined the following “gar-

land of flowers for a little grave:”—

Sweet violets on your namesake's tomb,
 From spring to spring, in turn appear,
 And breathing fragrance, spread your bloom,
 — generation every year.

While little children yet unborn,
 Come from the hill in playful bands,
 And pluck your florets, to adorn
 Their curly locks, and tiny hands.

Mothers and nurses grace the scene,
 Look on with innocent delight,
 And fondly think, o'er all ——— green,
 Their home-grown flowers the fairest sight.

The tripping girl, the buxom boy
 The rose and lily of their love,
 Bear'd on the *Mount below*, in joy,
 To blossom on the *Mount above*.

August 15th, ———

J. M.

the book ■ interesting memorial of the day, by affording you an opportunity of alluding to the prolongation of ■ ■ ■ precarious as yours, and of recording an expression of thankfulness that you have been spared ■ close your poetical labours by ■ dedication of ■ volume of verse ■ the service of the Christian ■ tuary." *Montgomery*: "Well, the fact is, I have actually ■ such ■ thought, though I ■ mentioned it before."

September. The poet called ■ day upon Mr. Holland, ■ expressed ■ pleasure he felt in having just got ■ copy of Lyte's edition of the Poems of Henry Vaughan. *Holland*: "You give an ■ from the work in 'The Christian Poet,' where I recollect you speak of the 'harshness and obscurity' of the *Silva scintillans*." *Montgomery*: "Yes; but you will ■ that I acknowledge there are also gleams of ■ excellence; and I have found ■ of these than I had anticipated, in ■ close and zealous perusal of the work within the last few days. I ■ especially thankful ■ Mr. Lyte for the memoir of ■ author of whom previously I knew but little. I will lend you the book, though I suspect you ■ enjoy it less than I have done, because you ■ allow your feelings ■ carry you away ■ any time. You must take especial care of the book, for it is more precious than the Queen of Spain's jewels*; indeed, ■ would rather be the author of some of the pieces in ■ little volume, than the possessor of the best diamond in her Majesty's coronet. What ■ this" (taking up ■ book)?† *Holland*: "It contains ■ amusing, ■ curious, and, I may say, painful revelations of the economy of modern Quakerism, by an ex-member of the society; but it ■ not,

* In the "Great Exhibition," and at the time much talked of.

† "Quakerism; or the Story of my Life."

I think, much in your way." *Montgomery*: "What! it all fudge — untrue?" *Holland*: "I am afraid it substantially true; for whatever we may [] of a 'talebearer,' who thus 'revealeth secrets,'—especially the [] of a close religious community,—the public [] discriminates between the reputation or prejudice of the witness, and the substance of the allegation: besides, in this case, the authoress professes herself ready [] give proofs of her assertions, 'if they should be called for by the Friends.'" *Montgomery*: "I will take the book with [] and read it" (tucking it under his arm). *Holland*: "I hope you will [] meet Friend — on your way!" *Montgomery*: "You might well say so, if you [] aware on what a kind errand he came up [] the Mount the other day:—being called down from my room, I found him the bearer of a parcel from my good friend, Mrs. —, of Ipswich, containing a beautiful morning gown, of black [] stuff, which I have [] for the first time to-day: I only want a pair of lawn sleeves to look a bishop!" It is [] with deak-men to sit and write in a loose and easy coat, that the reader may be surprised [] learn that Montgomery [] down [] work, [] any period of his life, until he [] full dressed for the day. It [] due [] kind Quaker lady to add, that when Montgomery, in acknowledging her handsome present, mentioned its "one fault," namely that "it [] fine [] wear," she immediately [] him another of soft and beautiful woollen stuff, and better adapted for ordinary []

Nov. 4. This day Montgomery attained the eightieth year of his age. Early in the morning he received from Mr. Holland "A Poet's Gratulation," in rhyme *;

and, on entering his sitting-room, a more substantial compliment awaited him: it consisted of an elegant chair, of carved walnut wood, accompanied by a purse of fifty sovereigns for the "Moravian Fund," and sixty sovereigns for the "Aged Female Society." These presents were the result of a subscription which had been set on foot by a number of ladies, who adopted an appropriate method of showing respect to their venerable friend and neighbour. The ladies parties induced him to allow an artist to model his likeness in profile for a "Montgomery Medal," to be given annually as a prize for the best drawing in casting of wild flowers available for ornamental manufacture, produced by a pupil in the Sheffield Government School of Design." Toward securing this object, they presented to the Institution the sum of sixty pounds to be expended on a suitable die. Alluding to one of the appendages of the chair, his old friend, Mrs. Gilbert, said in a note to the poet:—"May we add, that to its book-rest, before very long, enriched with a volume of those beautiful hymns, which, scattered as they hitherto have been, have yet inspired the music of praise in so many of our sanctuaries, would be as a favour conferred on the churches of our country." At noon, in conformity with a request which had been made at the annual meeting of Governors of the Sheffield General Infirmary, Montgomery planted an oak on the lawn, in front of that noble building. In the address which he delivered on this occasion, he mentioned as remarkable, the fact, that he stood there the sole survivor of those persons who were concerned with himself as founders and promoters of this useful Charity more than fifty years ago. A few days afterwards he addressed the following letter "To the benevolent Ladies who have been pleased to regard

with _____ an Octogenarian, — _____ Birthday, Nov.
4. 1851:—

“My _____ FARRAR,

“If silence could speak _____ understood, _____ would be _____ significant expression of my sentiments _____ the present occasion. Happily, however, there _____ in _____ mother-tongue _____ short and single word, comprehending _____ the dictionary _____ supply terms _____ convey; of _____ I _____ avail myself, and gladly I do so, — *thanks, thanks, thanks*, — thrice and four times thanks, — to _____ my birthday benefactors, for the precious tokens of goodwill towards me, of which their ‘Friendship’s Offerings’ before my eye _____ the graceful symbols, and, to my heart, endearing _____ morials _____ be carried down with it to the grave, and *may I, _____ I hope*, beyond it! where _____ but thankful _____ branches _____ reach, never to _____ blotted out if once registered in the book of each redeemed spirit’s life, before the throne, when retracing all the way which the Lord God hath led ‘him through the wilderness to the Canaan above’ (Deut. viii. 2.).

“Humbly and gratefully acknowledging the honourable motives which have influenced you thus to honour me, I can _____ without affectation, in the language of a more worthy poet than _____ am, on _____ prouder occasion, ‘Twas meant for *merit* though it _____ to me;’ yea, _____ better _____ it _____ than to please a poor weak mortal like me, — it has been duly _____ seasonably consecrated to the glory of God, and _____ promote, in _____ acceptable measure, the temporal, spiritual, and eternal benefit and blessing of thousands of souls _____ the uttermost ends of _____ earth, under _____ care of His servants belonging to the Church of my fathers, — unto whom, though feeling themselves ‘the _____ _____ saints, _____ this grace given, that they should preach _____ _____ Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ’ (Ephes. _____ 8.).

“Nor at _____ time, when your hearts and your hands are overflowing with kindness, _____ you forgotten _____ send por-

aged (the representatives of all our dearest kindred), visit whom, in their deep poverty and affliction, some of your number feel a privilege to minister in their humble dwellings, always welcome there. None of you, my friends, may lack the consolations of the Gospel, or both the will and the ability to be blessed in yourselves, and made blessings to others, whom your charity has bountifully bestowed, is my fervent prayer. My hope of your grateful friend, my debtor for obligations which I can only acknowledge but cannot repay,

"JAMES MONTGOMERY"

The Mount, Sheffield, Nov. 2. 1851."

James Montgomery to Mrs. Brookfield.

"The Mount, Nov. 1851.

"MY DEAR FRIEND,

"Since the 4th of this [last] month I have been bewildered with many things, that I have been scarcely able to do from day to day what pressed upon me, and could not be delayed. An *eightieth birthday* only, once in a life, though this were prolonged to the age of Methuselah; and having now reached the last milestone, distinctly marked on the pilgrimage (Psalm xc. 10.) from the cradle to the grave, beyond which there is no track, except stumbling-stones and pitfalls to the end of all things on earth, I am necessarily looking onward and backward, around and within, to ascertain where I am, and whither I am going. Of the past, I thank God, 'Goodness and Mercy have followed me all the days of my life'; and of the future, my heart's desire and prayer is, that I may, in my hour, have the blessed hope in me realised, the fulfilment of the remaining clause of the promise (Psalm xxiii. 6.), 'I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.' The whole of a Christian life is thus set forth, in such few beautiful words as are to be found nowhere else in Scripture given by inspiration of God, and they involve a fulness of divine meaning, the revelations of a happy

eternity alone can unfold to the comprehension of a [REDACTED] mind,—and that a renewed mind, made perfect in love. [REDACTED] I am almost preaching; and if I do, it [REDACTED] to myself I preach, for I have need of such searchings of heart in [REDACTED] my last days, [REDACTED] I have, I fear, [REDACTED] sufficiently [REDACTED] upon my- [REDACTED] The Lord, who has so long spared me, gives me *space* [REDACTED] repentance, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] employ [REDACTED] repentance. Oh! how [REDACTED] I love, if I ever,—and for ever,—be [REDACTED] forgiven through Jesus Christ, my Only [REDACTED] Almighty Saviour! I should earlier, [REDACTED] not [REDACTED] thankfully, have acknowledged your brief, [REDACTED] precious birthday gratulation, among many, many [REDACTED] of good-will from Lady Friends to a poor octogenarian,—every [REDACTED] of whom (if it [REDACTED] good for them), I wish to live [REDACTED] long as I have lived, and every day be [REDACTED] and more prepared to live and [REDACTED] the Lord and to Him. Kindest remembrances to your family members, each individually, and believe me, very truly and respectfully, your obliged friend,

“J. MONTGOMERY.

“ [REDACTED] Brookfield, [REDACTED] Bourne.”

The following letter may not improperly close the brief memorials of this year :

John [REDACTED] to James Everett.

“Sheffield, Dec. 20. 1851.

“Mr [REDACTED] Sir,

“I spent yesterday evening [REDACTED] Mount, where I found the poet in [REDACTED] usual health and spirits, but [REDACTED] good [REDACTED] by the very sudden death of [REDACTED] mutual friend, [REDACTED] John Jones, whose funeral I had that morning attended. One of the [REDACTED] influential and estimable members of [REDACTED] Wesleyan body in Sheffield, this good man was, as you [REDACTED] [REDACTED] universally respected by his townspeople; [REDACTED] I know another individual who so much resembled Montgomery himself [REDACTED] Catholicity of [REDACTED] Christian character—and [REDACTED] hand [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] heart. Nearly forty years [REDACTED] he [REDACTED] introduced me personally to the bard, [REDACTED] Red

Sunday School, at that time the scene of our joint labours. By you, he was afterwards intimately known or respected: and how often have 'we three' enjoyed together the elegant, abounding, and truly Catholic hospitalities of our departed friend! Montgomery ought to become expert in the use of the spade, seeing how repeatedly he has been called upon to plant memorial stones. I formed a society of gentlemen, who surrounded him when he performed his operation in the Infirmary grounds: the scenes were affecting in several respects.

"I am glad you added your own and the congratulatory tributes which marked the anniversary of the poet's birthday, the 24th of November. He showed me your letter; while he was evidently pleased with an appropriate religious tone, he did not fail to point out, in an incidental allusion, the 'rubing passion,' the original rhyming stanza.*

* Mr Everett addressed his friend in a directly religious manner, and perhaps the closing paragraph of his letter, as pleased the poet himself, may not be unacceptable to some of our readers. "Though I am far advanced in age, and yourself, I nevertheless feel that I am, to employ a simile from Burns, fast sliding down the other side of the hill. Excuse my quotation of a verse which I have been daring enough to add to the two claimed for him, in a well known song —

'John Anderson, my Joe, John,
When next's the sleep o' end,
We'll hail the dawn o' morning,
And 'cross the vale we'll wend,
We'll leave behin' a shadow,
Wi' joy our hearts shall glow —
Our clath'd anew on Zion's top,
John Anderson, my Joe'

"I considered that something like this was required to supply an omission on your part of the poet, occasioned by the absence of a better feeling which he expressed in his 'Cotter's Saturday Night,' where he leaves the wedded pair sleeping on the hill, closing their eyes in the night of death, without any reference to the hope of them being opened in the morning of the re-

It is enough that, by some sort of blunder, somewhere, birthday celebrations appear to have presented themselves, on the other side of the Atlantic, as posthumous memorials! Montgomery told me last night, that he was startled, the previous evening, by the introduction of a stranger*, with an American newspaper †, containing a notice of his death, and a sketch of his life and character!

"I have just been called on by Mr. Milnes, a sculptor, from London, who is about to execute a bust of the poet, which he has to have for the exhibition of the Royal Academy, next year. The artist was very anxious to be allowed to execute a likeness from life, but I have done what I could to facilitate the accomplishment of his purpose. He is, I believe, a cousin of Monckton Milnes, the poet; and has been selected, from amidst numerous competitors, to erect, from his own design, a memorial, in the form of a lofty tower, near Bury, in Lancashire, the birth-place of the lamented poet."

"I am, my friend, Sir,

"Yours very truly.

"JOHN HOLLAND.

"Rev. Mr. Everett."

* The gentleman wrote to the New York editors to say that the poet "had read the announcement of his death in their paper, without glasses," adding, "I can assure you, he enjoyed it very much." The editors concluded their subsequent paragraph of "Montgomery Redivivus," by congratulating "the venerable poet on the attainment of such a vigorous and happy old age, and his enjoyment of the honours which await his memory. *Servus rediens* in *hunc*."

† "New York Tribune." The poet appears to have been much disconcerted by this mistaken announcement; but it was soon corrected by the letters which presently reached Miss Montgomery's relatives in the United States, condoling with her on the assumed death of her long-surviving friend.

CHAP. CVIII.

1852.

LETTER TO MR. HOLLAND. — "DIURNAL SONNETS." — LINES "TO AN AMERICAN VISITOR." — TAYLOR'S "METHODISM." — DEATH OF MONTGOMERY. — CATASTROPHE OF HOLMFIETH. — "LIFE OF LORD JEFFREY." — MONTGOMERY'S LECTURE. — SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS. — QUARLES'S SONNETS.

EARLY in January Mr. Holland sent Montgomery a copy of a little book consisting of a series of "Sonnets," arranged, that the numbering, and generally the subject of each, corresponded with the fixed and moveable feasts, and other memorable days of an entire year. Instead of a merely verbal acknowledgment of the present, the poet wrote as follows :—

"The Mount, Jan. 1852.

"MY FRIEND,

"I rejoice to congratulate you on the accomplishment of your great work; and if you had not written a *longest year* epic, I dare not discourage the attempt. I spent Sunday evening—being confined at home—in turning over your 'Diurnal Sonnets,' equalling *longest year** that ever has been measured by the sun (or ever will be, and therefore may last till the end of time, which I will not be so egregiously unwise as to wish), — 366 days; and spare doing your utmost, and, therefore, always your

"I do not, of course, read them consecutively—you your-

* This is said in allusion to the fact of there having been a *leap year* for the twenty-ninth of February, thus making 366 altogether.

would have thanked me for doing that,—but I picked
 some for the sake of the subjects, and read more as I turned
 over the quest of these. I have marked some specks
 on there a pearl, which, if they not been pearls,
 would be discoverable by a glancing eye. I
 struck you neither vain nor mortified when
 I tell you, that, laying the volume down, I myself,
 'Tis the glass palace of my friend's mind, in which he
 collected its most precious of thought
 and sentiment,—through (how you?) many years
 of exercise, and accumulated improvement of
 ordinary faculties, and diligently perfected materials, his
 way of life, and excursive reading. I presume to
 determine which these gems are *Koh-i-Noor* of the
 Exhibition; or, in curiosity of workmanship, *inexpugna-
 ble locks*,—but I concede you much honour the
 whole, as though you had by lucky chance found the dia-
 mond in the rock of Golconda, or wrought the miracle of
 iron anvil. This acknowledgment I you,
 I disparaged your brave conception, and you
 forgiveness for such impertinence. Believe me, truly and
 ever, your friend,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"Mr. John Holland."

The foregoing letter is given, less on account of its
 interest to the individual addressed—gratifying, as it
 undoubtedly was, that account—than as affording a
 pleasing illustration of the "*viridis senectus*," in con-
 nexion with a playful exuberance of fancy which still
 characterised the active mind of the friendly bard.
 This pleasing might, however, have had no
 existence, the writer of it delayed the expression of
 his feelings a day or two longer; for, calling upon
 Mr. Holland a short time afterwards, the poet said he
 was unaware, when he wrote, that three of the
 referred to himself, by name; and while he was
 pleased with kindness and ingenuity which they

neck, in our [redacted] dormitory, we had a 'Special Evening Blessing,'—hands, [redacted] hearts, and voices all joined together in singing hymns of commemoration of [redacted] Jewish Sabbath day, [redacted] succeeded [redacted] the [redacted] rose,—the Sun of Righteousness from the dead,—and ushered [redacted] the [redacted] Sabbath; when, if 'the morning [redacted] [redacted] together' at the word 'Let there be light!' there was a higher jubilee in heaven, and [redacted] only 'all the [redacted] of [redacted] [redacted] for joy,' [redacted] millions of 'the spirits of just [redacted] made perfect,' who [redacted] 'died in faith, not having inherited the promises,' between 'the [redacted] [redacted] second Adam,' joined [redacted] chorus of [redacted] angels [redacted] [redacted] not, but [redacted] kept their 'first estate.' Decipher [redacted] implicated sentence [redacted] well [redacted] you can; you have it as [redacted] [redacted] I dare [redacted] mend for [redacted] of marring it.

4. *The Lord's Prayer.* You [redacted] wrestling with [redacted] angel when you entered into competition with Bishop Hall's [redacted] admirable exposition of the Lord's Prayer. [quoted in the motto of the sonnet.] [redacted] verse can excel his prose here, and [redacted] [redacted] reach the simplicity and perfection of our Saviour's words which inspired [redacted] when he penned the paragraph. 5. I envy you the line,—'Life's great secret-keeper, Death.' 6. *Mortuary Mementos.* You have done [redacted] [redacted] enshrine the 'pair of gloves' in your 'humble song;' and there they will hang longer than 'the last fifty years'—Qu. ? In Rotherham church? where I have [redacted] formerly such 'frail designs'—'dangling,' and [redacted] my better feelings [redacted] with [redacted] spectacle, almost [redacted] many years ago.

7. *Grouse Shooting.* I would rather have written this, [redacted] [redacted] fifty moor-fowl, or eaten them either. The [redacted] couplet—[redacted] [redacted] quadruplet, is worth all [redacted] powder [redacted] shot spent [redacted] any [redacted] of August; the last line [redacted] exquisite. 8. *Tynemouth.* [redacted] heart of this sonnet, from 'first my eager sight,' [redacted] 'deep in my inmost thoughts,' is [redacted] [redacted] obscure, [redacted] beautifully disclosing in miniature [redacted] magnificence of a [redacted] which the eye [redacted] [redacted] glance, but [redacted] mind receives the very [redacted] with [redacted] [redacted] impression. [redacted] [redacted] I caught you in love? Three [redacted] [redacted] are enough [redacted] win any 'mortal mixture of earthly mould' [redacted]

Woman. *Love* 10. choose to be an earl, the favourite of a queen, and yet so spirit, obey Majesty's ledge the degradation in terms subject own in preamble to this sonnet.* your dexterity could make 'Sith,' Try, prove that I have mistaken rhyming resources you boast, and justly boast, three sixty-six volume indisputably evidence."

One evening returning home, the poet found an American gentleman waiting and very anxious to see him, if but for a few minutes; little time this elapsed before the stranger had said farewell; but he was solicitous to take away with him, as memento of the interview, a line of Montgomery's handwriting; his wish immediately gratified by the following impromptu:—

TO AN AMERICAN VISITOR.

Eyes that have never seen each other, meet
In soul-communion on this mortal sheet:
And here, when lands intervene,
Their glorious pass-word may be clearly seen
And read,—the greatest truth from heaven above
Reveal'd on earth,—that God is Love!
What wondrous power this interview wrought,—
A Pen, the Telegraph of thought.

Jan. 1852.

J. M.

Jan. 27. Montgomery having expressed a

" "Sith her majesty hath set down this her sentence against me, to my perpetual infamy and dishonour, that I should be ruled and overcome by my wife, so bad and wicked a woman; yet her majesty shall see that I obey her commandment, though no plague on earth could be more grievous to me."—*Letter of the Earl of Shrewsbury to Lord Burghley.*

Taylor's "Wesley Methodism," Holland him book, accompanied by a expressing about the collection of Original Hymns, repeatedly in these pages, which, although seriously three years yet actually Taking tea Mount, a few days afterwards, II invited up-stairs look a beautiful miniature model of a chamois antelope, which a lady brought from Switzerland, an appropriate present the poet: pointing to the table, covered with MS. hymns—*Montgomery*: "Look there, you will perceive I have, at last, made a beginning of the work you are so anxious about; but I am liable to such frequent interruptions, that I know not when or whether I shall ever complete it. Yesterday, my tortured for two hours, by what was a really compulsory sitting, for a sketch of my face, an artist, who introduced by a Liverpool lithographic publisher, for that purpose.* On the previous day, I a visit from Elihu Burritt, the 'American blacksmith,' from whom, I confess, I had previously stood aloof." *Holland*: "I suspect you would find him enthusiastic on of the leading topics of his personal mission to this country, than yourself." *Montgomery*: "Yes; that to be expected; but a pleasant chat; and I am glad I have the man who, going from the humble occupation of the anvil, so long and laudably presented the 'Olive Branch' of the nations." "Have you Taylor's book?" *Montgomery*: "I have read every word of it; and I with you in thinking that it displays only an unusual perspicacity the subject, but of kindness and candour, too rarely in works of a similar character: this reason—

* The print was very unsatisfactory as a likeness.

say nothing of others—it will probably please no party among the Methodists: indeed, I think, the amiable, clear-headed author has mooted questions of fact, as well as indulged in speculations, which may very justly, they will certainly, challenge controversy. I am especially glad that he has done something to justice to the character of Charles Wesley, whose direct and abiding influence in Methodism, by means of his incomparable, all-pervading, and ever-present hymnology, has been greater than is generally either recognised or acknowledged even by the tens of thousands who constantly join in singing such strains as those which, previously to his time, rarely, if ever, heard in any congregation of worshipping Christians."

On the 26th of February Thomas Moore, a poet who had long lived almost entirely in the smile and sunshine of indulgent popularity, to which his generous and genial temperament, no less than his acknowledged and versatile genius, may be said not only to have enforced, but justified the claim. Mr. Holland read to Montgomery a brief notice of the poet's death and character from the *Globe* newspaper, in which it was stated that "he had survived many great contemporaries who started in the dawn of fame at the beginning of the present century." Montgomery thought that unless "great contemporaries" were used in a very restricted sense, the form of expression was not quite proper, considering that Rogers was still alive; for, assuredly, the author of the "Pleasures of Memory," less than he who sang the "Pleasures of Hope," deserved to be recognised in the foregoing category; nor, although indulged in at the moment, was Mr. Holland's conviction strong, that Montgomery himself was fully entitled to similar consideration. Ebenezer Elliott's comparison, already quoted, and in his style—

"Moore, the Montgomery of the drawing-room,
Montgomery, the Moore of social themes,"

suggests a parity of lyric reputation and influence between the two poets, — indisputable in fact — it is different in kind.

16. Mr. Everett being on a visit at Sheffield, — walked to the Mount, and found the poet within. He adverted to the extraordinary forgery of a series of letters, purporting to have been written by Shelley, which had just been disclosed, and compared it to the ingenious deceptions of a similar character, which Ireland and Chatterton had practised in their day. In reply to an observation, that the letters attributed to Lord Lyttleton, and the matter of which formed an important element in the elaborate argument which the *Quarterly Review* had recently built up in favour of that nobleman's title to the authorship of the "Letters of Junius," — undoubtedly written by Dr. Coombe, Montgomery laughed at the notion, and said, the most entertaining result of the controversy — the identity, or at least the resemblance, which the hypothesis assumed between the style of "Junius" and that of the author of the "Tour of Dr. Syntax!" A newspaper lying on the table contained a list of the names of persons in Sheffield—Montgomery's among the rest—who subscribed towards mitigating the sufferings of those who had been injured by the then awful catastrophe at Holmfirth, when nearly a hundred individuals perished, along with their dwellings, on the morning of the 12th of February, by the sudden bursting of a large reservoir on a hill above that town. It happened that Mr. Everett slept on that disastrous night in a house exposed to imminent peril from the accident, — "the rain descended, and the floods came,

and the winds blew, and beat upon **the** house; but **it** fell not,"—and **the** preacher found **himself** in the morning contemplating the sodden corpses, and comforting the bereaved friends, of many persons who **had** listened **to** **his** sermon the evening before! Allusion being made to the **unostentatious** funeral of Thomas Moore, **of** Bromham, Wilts, Mr. Everett **had** **with** **him** **a** walking-stick, which he once cut from the hedge adjoining the poet's cottage at Mayfield, near Ashbourn, **which** he prized **as** **a** memento of the visit. **He** led Montgomery to produce and praise **a** handsome "alpen-stock" which he had just received **as** "a souvenir from Switzerland;" the colloquy which ensued between **the** two friends, on the beauty and **of** their sticks, although neither **so** long, nor quite **so** interesting **as** the well-known "History of **a** Gold-headed Cane," **was** amusing enough to the listener who regarded it **as** **a** **serious** anticlimax **to** the previous **of** conversation!

July. He read with avidity the "Life of Lord Jeffrey;" at the **same** time expressing **a** doubt whether the phrase, "The greatest of British Critics," which the noble biographer had used in the opening **of** **his** work, **was** quite justifiable in its broadest meaning. But the Letters which form the second volume of Lord Cockburn's book afforded the greatest satisfaction **to** Montgomery, as exhibiting the domestic character, "the personal humanity," of Jeffrey in a gentle and **of** point of view, which **was** so strikingly with **his** professional severity, not to **say** **the** **ill-nature**, of the *Edinburgh reviewer*. We recollect that, when **asked** what he thought **of** **the** article **on** "Jeffrey's Life" in the *Quarterly**, **his** reply was, that he should have **been** **much** better had it **contained** a disparaging allusion **in** the letters, from **Jeffrey**

* *Quarterly Review*, vol. xci. **p.** **100**

he thought they ought to have been spared — least — grounds; — first, that they — all — injuriously either the private or the public character of — writer, — if he were actually guilty — having been — affectionate and condescending in “ — epistolary devotions — the ‘Dear Julius’ and ‘Gentle — das,’ ” or, “as if — atone for all earlier severity towards — great, — hug every opportunity of prostrating — before little people;” and secondly, their very value, in illustration of character, — mainly from — conviction that they — private effusions of the head — heart of one who assuredly — contemplated their appearance in print; affording, however, — they did, evidence that, in his domestic and friendly relations, even the once dreaded Jeffrey himself was not wholly and exclusively the — lawyer and the bitter critic. More — the purpose, he admitted, — the *Quarterly reviewer’s* expressions of regret — the absence of more satisfactory evidence in the matter of personal religion, both in the *Life* and *Letters*.

July. Montgomery, having allowed himself to be persuaded — to deliver a lecture before the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society, mentioned the — Mr. Holland, whose expressions — misgiving — the poet’s strength for the task — succeeded by undissembled surprise when told that the subject contemplated — “Letter Writing;” in fact, that — author — read to his audience — substance of his essay prefixed to “The Christian Correspondent,” and which, although it — been long in print, — hardly be — to have been published, — little — known; — any rate, — doubted whether — had been read by any one of those persons whom he was expected — address. — friend entertained — expressed a different opinion so decidedly, — only

evidently to distress the poet on this point, but ■■■ danger ■■■ realization of the experiment in any form. As, however, there appeared no sufficient opening ■■■ from the promise already made, and the renewed solicitation of the gentlemen who ■■■ anxious ■■■ and hear their old colleague once ■■■ in the Society's rostrum, he resolved ■■■ form ■■■ lecture from other ■■■ terials, under the general title of "Some Passages of English Poetry little known." It ■■■ delivered at the Music Hall, ■■■ the evening of July 19th, before a very respectable audience; many of whom contrasted sadly the present enfeebled condition of the speaker with that which characterised his first similar address ■■■ them in the ■■■ room thirty years before; and all of whom were now conscious it was the last time they should ever so meet and hear him. The poets ■■■ particularly named, ■■■ Shakspeare, Ben Jonson, Quarles, Wither, ■■■ Andrew Marvell.

After a prologue, in which he adverted to man, ■■■ the only inhabitant of this earth who looks far into futurity; who looks behind, and around, and before; as the only creature under heaven who recognises his own ancestry whom he ■■■ knew, and provides for ■■■ posterity, whom he ■■■ can know; who, in life, lives beyond himself, and in the world lives above it, by ■■■ of the physical, moral, and intellectual wealth which he inherits, accumulates and bequeathes, the lecturer ■■■ thus introduced the ■■■ in ■■■ : — "Of Shakspeare ■■■ has been written, ■■■ published, and spoken, than of any other author in prose ■■■ rhyme within the compass of our language. In ■■■ popular works, Tragedies and Comedies, I ■■■ recollect ■■■ there ■■■ allusion ■■■ personally, except in ■■■ glorious burst of enthusiastic feeling, the prologue ■■■ one ■■■ greatest performances: —

"Oh! for a Muse of fire that would ascend
The highest heaven of invention," &c. — *Ham. V.*

But there is another section of [redacted] compositions which appear [redacted] wholly egotistical, [redacted] though these reveal no [redacted] of his heart or [redacted] history, except such [redacted] poets [redacted] betray if they have them, [redacted] feign if they have them not — of course, I mean [redacted] love-breathings. Of these, there [redacted] a hundred and fifty-four. Yet [redacted] little have they been trumpeted forth by critics and commentators, that it may be doubted whether a hundred [redacted] fifty-four of [redacted] poet's hundred [redacted] fifty-four thousand devout worshippers, play-readers, [redacted] play-goers, are [redacted] of the existence of such precious memorials of the golden image which Garrick set up and inaugurated with such bombastic strains, [redacted] Stratford-on-Avon, about [redacted] century ago." After [redacted] other remarks, the lecturer proceeded, — "The sonnets, however, disclose the fact, that their illustrious author [redacted] possess that 'last infirmity of noble minds,' [redacted] calls the Love of Fame, notwithstanding his 'hiding himself among the stuff' in his greater works; and [redacted] himself did not more confidently anticipate that need of his labours, or [redacted] magnanimously waited for it, knowing that must come, than did William Shakspeare, who felt that he had secured for his [redacted] imperishable record. With what conscious [redacted] reigny does [redacted] open the following sonnet *To [redacted] Lady*, —

'Not marble, nor the gilded monuments
[redacted] princes, shall [redacted] this powerful rhyme,' &c.

After [redacted] quotation from the Sonnets, he said, in reference [redacted] their structure:—

"These pieces were composed, not on the intricate Italian model which the reluctant language scarcely could admit, except the mastery of a well-practised hand, like the Laureate's*, and another, nearer home, whom I could not, saving his presence.† Shakspeare rather chose the simple and pleasing melody to any English ear, consisting of ten-syllable lines, like Gray's Elegy, and closing in a harmonising couplet. All these were upon one subject, seemingly addressed to one lady, who (we courteously presume) was his wooed and wedded wife, to whom, we are told, he was married at the early age of eighteen. His forms, of course, of hoping, fearing, happy fondly jealous passion, are therein displayed with an inexhaustible diversity of thought, and splendour of illustration, which might be expected to mark any compositions of Shakspeare's on whatever theme, in whatever measure, whatever he produced."‡

* Wordsworth.

† This complimentary notice is to one of the biographers, whose volume of "Diurnal Sonnets" has already been mentioned, and most unexpected by the subject of it.

‡ It is remarkable that so close and shrewd a reader as Montgomery should only assert that "all these (sonnets) are upon one subject, seemingly addressed to one lady," and should courteously presume that lady "was his wooed and wedded wife," when so widely different an opinion has so long been entertained. That they were "all addressed to Anne Hathaway, to whom the poet was married at the early age of eighteen, appears, in fact, only one degree improbable, and that they have been addressed to Queen Elizabeth, a notion once vehemently insisted upon! It is generally admitted, though we are against much repulsive internal evidence, that William Herbert, the third Earl of Pembroke, was "the begetter of these sonnets," and that the first 126 of them were addressed to that accomplished young nobleman. The conclusion arrived at by R. H. Bright, Esq.; and the earliest published evidence in its favour was by Mr. Boaden, in a long and interesting communication to the "Gentleman's Magazine, part

We give these passages with reference to the accuracy of Montgomery's estimate of the unpopularity of the Shakspeare sonnets, than to the opinions of one so well qualified to judge of the merits of these interesting specimens of English poetry, which, especially if the world-wide celebrity of their putative author be taken into account, are certainly very "little known," and, according to Dr. Drake, deservedly so.*

ii. 1875. The remaining twenty-eight sonnets appear mostly to have been addressed to some female, though the tone of warmth and admiration which they breathe is often much inferior to that of the preceding portion of the series. The subject is treated at large in a volume entitled "Shakspeare's Autobiographical Poems," by Charles Armitage Brown, 1838. Agreeing in the explanation above given of the meaning of the initials "W. II.," he contends, with much plausibility, that "these sonnets are not, properly speaking, sonnets," but that they form six poems in the sonnet stanza, and each of which he defines and examines; the sixth and last alone, i.e. from stanzas 127 to 152, being addressed by the poet, not to his "W. II." as all the others are, nor to his wife, as Montgomery would hope, but "To his Mistress, on her Infidelity." The Sheffield poet certainly allowed his "hope against hope" to lead him into a curious mistake; but what says Mr. Brown on this point? "I fear some readers may be surprised that I have not yet noticed a certain fault in Shakspeare, a glowing one, — his having a mistress, while he had a wife of his own, perhaps at Stratford. May no persons be inclined to condemn him with a bitterness equal to their own virtue! For myself, I confess I have not the heart to blame him at all, purely because he so severely reproaches himself for his own sin and folly . . . He condemned and subdued his fault, and was therefore to be cited as a good rather than a bad example," p. 98. That must be very slippery morality indeed, over which a thorough-paced Shakspearian cannot conduct his hero without tripping in his reputation! The tone in which Shakspeare addresses his male friend in these sonnets has been often used to justify him in which Tennyson speaks of Arthur in "In Memoriam." — *Cambridge Essays*, 1855, p. 275.

* Literary Hours, i. p. 100.

The lecturer accomplished his task, to the whole, with some inconvenience to himself, some more satisfaction to his friends, than perhaps either party had anticipated. His matter, of course, good, and amidst delivered in a tone of animation, which recalled other days, one, in which the bachelor poet somewhat surprised his audience. Speaking of Pomfret's lines entitled "The Choice," in the author very circumstantially how he would have dealt with himself, "had Providence given him an opportunity of being the caterer of his share of those benefits which so unsatisfactorily distributed among the discontented millions of the human race, that every one feels there is 'something unpossess,' which grievously depreciates the value of all beside that may have fallen to his lot;"—the lecturer proceeded:—

"Now it is, no doubt, very pleasant for a middle-aged man to sit down in an arm-chair, and wish himself some good things of this life—but one,—the best of all,—a good wife,—which our poetical Fortunatus, with his wishing-cap expressly excepts in his inventory! Nor is it," he added, "very unnatural, in such a reverie of self-complacency, to speak slightly of a neighbour, whom we deem to be quite so deserving as we ourselves of special distinction. Yet, how mistaken the egotist may be in both estimates, a hundred and fifty years have shown in the interval between Pomfret and the Bavians that of poetry, Quarles and Wither were considered by him,—aye, and by greater geniuses of the same class with him. If he could see envy in the grave, that once might repine to think that 'even Quarles have admirers' still, and of no order, while the only above them, is, in the master-roll of Poets, his rank and file, where theirs is found."

the "poor distinction"—if such it be—is shared by Blackmore,—men immeasurably Pomfret's superiors in every way, but whose best to disparage by "odious comparison" with which certainly better appreciated by posterity.

CHAP. CIX.

METHODIST CONFERENCE. — MONTGOMERY ON THE PLATFORM. — LETTER FROM HOLLAND TO J. EVERETT. — ARRANGEMENT OF THE CONFERENCE. — COMPANIES. — SHEFFIELD SCHOOL. — THE "MONTGOMERY MEDAL" AWARDED. — "INOLE CANN." — DEATH OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON. — EARL OF CARLISLE'S LECTURE ON GRAY. — COMPLIMENT. — CONVERSATION. — HELLITT'S STAFF. — "SINGLE SISTERS." — LAST DAY OF THE YEAR.

THIS year, the Wesleyan Conference held at Sheffield. Dining one day with Montgomery and some of the preachers at Mr. Jones's, Mr. Holland remarked, that in a conversation with the poet the previous day, relative to the non-admission of laymen to the Conference, he had assured him that his would be an "open sesame." Although the allusion intended merely a passing pleasantry, the Revs. Dr. Newton, W. Bunting, and T. Waugh, who were present*, im-

* The interview was remembered with pleasure by all parties; and at least so, by the reverend doctor, who afterwards said of Montgomery, "What a fine specimen is an aged Christian man and poet, sanctified by the grace of God!" — *Jackson's Life of Newton*, p. 343. And the Rev. W. M. Bunting in a letter, referring to the same party, remarks, "Charming all was religious spirit, mutual cordiality, conversation on the good old times of Sheffield Methodism, which seemed to unite the souls of the preacher and the poet into one, and which now give interest to the fact that they 'entered heaven with prayer' the same day, and within a of other." — p.

immediately their conviction that only would
 door of Conference Chapel be willingly opened
 Montgomery, but that a visit from him would be
 highly gratifying the brethren in session. Accord-
 ingly, within a day two afterwards, Montgomery
 surprised receive a formal invitation which he
 cepted; and on the 14th of August, he introduced
 the Conference by Dr. Hannah, "a venerable
 friend whom Methodism under great obliga-
 tions." Having taken a seat on the platform beside the
 chair, the President (Rev. John Scott) addressed the
 poet in appropriate of recognition and
 welcome; and after alluding the services which their
 distinguished visitor had rendered by his character and
 writings, to the of religious truth and moral pu-
 rity, and to the delight which his poetry had ministered
 to many readers, he said, "We feel under great ob-
 ligation yourself, and to the religious body to which
 you belong, and I beg to assure you of the kindest af-
 fection of the Conference." Montgomery then
 and, with great emotion, replied,—"My Christian
 friends, fathers, and brethren in the Lord, I dare not
 moment of your time; and I have but little
 ; but that little, so important in itself I utter from
 my heart,—"The Lord bless you, and keep you! The
 Lord make face to shine upon you, and be gracious
 you! The Lord up his countenance upon
 you, and give you peace!" in the of Jesus.
 Amen!" Dr. Bunting expressed sympathy with
 the President in the observations which he made,
 and reiterated the assurance of the President of the
 respect and with which they Montgomery with
 them that day. On many occasions
 they had in former years, and now, the poet
 more the preacher, undergone the

alteration of age; but they both knew who the strength of their heart, and alike trusted that God would be their portion for ever. The venerable Doctor added that he could not express and heartfelt in the sentiment of high respect for the Church which Mr. Montgomery belonged to; Methodism under untold obligations to excellent men connected with the Moravian community; and he trusted that both parties would maintain "The Truth" unimpaired and unconcealed. Several other preachers followed in the same strain; some of them adverting especially to the personal services which had been long rendered by Montgomery to the Methodist Missionary Society. This interview equally gratifying to all parties; "no incident," Dr. Bunting remarked, "having more tended to brighten and beautify the Conference of 1852;" for, another preacher said elsewhere, "even the venerable present, who had been the contemporaries of Wesley himself, seemed to be in the presence of an elder, when Montgomery, a member of the ancient Moravian Church, blessed the Conference, and the 'People called Methodists,' with the blessing wherewith Aaron and his blessed the children of Israel."

John — James Everett.

"Sheffield, Sept. — 1852.

"My Friend,

"I have an incident for you: yesterday Montgomery called, laying before me a book entitled 'Reign of Terror, and other poems, by James Everett,' 'Do you know it?' he. I replied negatively. 'Then you must read it; I took it up by chance, Saturday, hardly lay down till I had read through; really contains many thoughts, are not of a common kind,

they very happily expressed. I am Mr. would be gratified if he knew how much I had enjoyed reading of his verses.' 'I wish you would write and him.' *Montgomery*: 'Nay; but you may do so.' Now here is a compliment to your little volume, turning twenty years after publication! But I have an important matter to mention: being the a days *Montgomery* lamenting, he had repeatedly done before, difficulty of getting work with the transcription and arrangement of his Hymns as form a volume, which has been in contemplation for the three or four years, at least. Aware of the desirability of accomplishing this pious work, and afraid that continued procrastination might issue in final disappointment to his friends and the public, unless some energetic and immediate measures were taken to facilitate the object, I asked the poet to allow me to take the manuscripts and deal with them as if they were my own, so far as reducing them to orderly copy was concerned. To my surprise and gratification he consented; and I there and then collected and marched off with the precious deposit, a bundle of ominous bulk, under my arm, with the parting admonition to beware I was not robbed! I found the matter consisted of four classes:— 1. Hymns in the original draughts. 2. Printed slips of such as had been used on various occasions. 3. Books, in which they were intermixed with other similar positions, 4. A small portion of 'fair copy,' derived from various sources. But now, anxious as I was the work accomplished, and zealous as I felt towards the execution of my share of the task, I shrunk from the attempt of transcribing between two and three thousand verses, and instead, I obtained a quantity of paper, by the use of those repudiated but useful literary adjuncts,— 'scissors and paste,' reduced the multifarious such a convenient uniformity, the author was only surprised, but much gratified with the result, proceeding on my part, with alacrity, to revise the thus arranged. One thing impressed me very much, in going

Hymns, namely, evidence of the variety of service they had in most cases been rendered; the margins were not seldom crowded with memoranda of names of books, persons, or places furnished with copies which had been furnished on solicitation, by the author. I must confess I felt a degree of regret at the destruction of so many evidences of a pious — may we not almost say, an apostolic. —intercourse with good men in every part of the kingdom. I was glad to learn, that, although he rarely departing from his routine attendance at St. George's Church, our friend last Sunday evening to the Baptist chapel to hear the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel preach. He was much pleased; the crowded and deep reminding of the delight with which, in similar circumstances, in the same place, he had heard a sermon by the Rev. Robert Hall; I believe you nor I shall presently forget the latter occasion.

"I am, my dear friend, yours very truly,

"JOHN HOLLAND.

"Rev. J. Everett, York."

At the time when Mr. Holland undertook alluded in this letter, Montgomery was becoming immeshed in a most uncongenial, harassing, and profitless duty—for such he considered it to be. Having, as we have elsewhere stated, been, the first, an active promoter, and thenceforward an official director, of the Sheffield Gas Light Company, it fell to his lot this period, on a former occasion, to co-operate with his fellow-shareholders in resisting the claims of a rival proprietary—commonly an ungracious proceeding—the best, and particularly so when originated and pursued amidst such popular provocations as characterised both parties in the controversy. With the merits of the controversy the reader of these pages need not feel much interest beyond a knowledge of the fact, that Montgomery obviously suffered from it, in his own phrase, "in mind, body,

and [redacted];" [redacted] although personally well disposed [redacted] make [redacted] sacrifice [redacted] the [redacted] head, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] conscientious [redacted] abandon his bellicose brethren in the [redacted] for [redacted] common interests and [redacted] rights. "I am [redacted] the stocks," said he, "and cannot get out [redacted] present."

Oct. 19. [redacted] [redacted] present [redacted] the large and highly respectable annual meeting of the "Sheffield School of Design," held in the Music Hall, his Grace the Duke of Newcastle presiding. The distinguished chairman not only expressed [redacted] the poet personally the pleasure he [redacted] in meeting him, and also paid him [redacted] handsome compliment in his admirable opening speech, but when, in distributing the prizes to the pupils, he came to the "Montgomery Medal,"* he said he [redacted] sure the successful competitor would be glad to receive it from the hand of him whose name it bore, and whose genius and virtues it was designed to [redacted]. The venerable bard then came forward, and presenting the prize to the recipient, said, "This public compliment [redacted] [redacted] testimony that you have done well: always

* We may appropriately perpetuate here his [redacted] remarks, elicited many years previously by the execution of [redacted] a medal of Pitt, by Mr. Wilson [redacted] local artist: "There is something truly sublime [redacted] the process by which the [redacted] art [redacted] developed, — a blank piece of metal in [redacted] moment, and by a stroke as transforming as that of [redacted] enchanter's wand, receives an impression which may [redacted] be obliterated, an image which stamps [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] eye through [redacted] mind of the beholder, speaks [redacted] language of every country, the language of looks, and tells that there [redacted] [redacted] one who is [redacted] [redacted] and [redacted] such were his features [redacted] whose [redacted] [redacted] embossed or [redacted] a medal (to [redacted] [redacted] a plain expression) [redacted] [redacted] a fairer chance of immortality on earth, [redacted] [redacted] whose praises are sung by the Homer [redacted] [redacted] Horace of his day." — *Iris*, May 25. 1819. [redacted] would fain adapt to the Montgomery medal the proud [redacted] [redacted] the Roman bard —

"*Exegi monumentum [redacted] perennius.*"

do your best; and then you will be almost always do better."

Oct. 27. Mr. Holland went to the Mount, placed before Montgomery the manuscript of his Hymns (820 pages), the copy being not only transcribed and arranged, but put up as to be ready for immediate transmission by post. The poet was evidently startled for a moment with the practical result of his friend's intervention; but, after a little explanation, he took his pen, and addressed the Messrs. Longman and Co., with a letter.

Mr. Holland been composing a hymn for the Sunday Union Jubilee; it is that beginning:—

"The grace of Jesus Christ our Lord,
The Father's love with perfect accord," &c."

and will probably not be thought to exhibit any very striking originality of thought, or curiousness of diction; yet so difficult was it for the author to be self-satisfied, that he made at least eight or ten versions of this hymn before its text was finally settled. He was, of course, well aware, that success, in such a case, was not always proportionate to the amount of labour bestowed; indeed, it was uncommon under any circumstances. "The appearance of a genuinely good hymn," he in a letter to Mr. Holland, "is like the appearance of a comet in the heavens; but, in the heaven of sacred song, a good hymn must be like a comet, the rarity of its goodness being that it becomes a fixed star amidst a firmament of meteors, which ninety-nine, at least, out of every hundred hymns are."

Oct. 28. Mr. Holland found Montgomery engaged—almost every man, woman, and child in England was

time—in reading “Uncle Tom’s Cabin.” *Holland*: “How have you got, Sir?” *Montgomery*: “Only where run-away slave mother, Eliza, delivered into the hands of honest old John Van Trompe; but I have laughed and cried over it many a time already: I do not wonder that a story well conceived and so touchingly told, should have proved attractive all classes of readers, as well in England as in America.”

not then reached the passage, “So much has been and sung of beautiful young girls, why don’t somebody wake up to the beauty of old women?” or he might have answered, “Often and earnestly has been my theme both in prose and rhyme,” and that, too, when the subjects of it have been personally much less attractive than “our good friend Rachael Holliday, just she there in her little rocking-chair.”

Holland: “Many persons thought *Slavery*, a theme of polite literature, had been quite ‘used up’ long since, and that the question must be left entirely to political or practical abolitionists.”

Montgomery: “It so said, when I was writing the ‘West Indies;’ the subject, I told, had lost its interest through haustion; and yet the poem was successful.”

Holland: “Slavery can never cease excite the horror and opposition of good and patriotic men, till it exist.”

Montgomery: “It is, indeed, remarkable, that on a subject trite and hackneyed in prose and rhyme, this American authoress, whose I heard before, should have produced of the original works of its class, and perhaps the popular book of the day.”

Holland: “It appears, for the have superseded Dickens and Company. It hardly to produce a powerful impression against slavery on both sides Atlantic.” All cha-

■ Perhaps one of the most remarkable of the immediate effects

powerfully sketched, and especially of Topsy, which will outlive all the popular memory: it may almost be taken as the synonym for slavery itself in of its debasing results."

Nov. 1. In reply to an inquiry relative to health. *Montgomery*: "As well as I am expected to be, after sitting hours breathing hydrogen eating coal-tar, and drinking ammoniacal liquor!" *Holland*: "A very poetical repast, truly! I wish you would leave the controversy to parties with more strength, and less sensibility, than yourself." *Montgomery*: "I should deem it dishonourable to do so at this crisis: no, the house is on fire, and I will not leave it until either the flames are extinguished, or the place is burnt down."

Nov. 20. *Holland*: "What is your opinion, Sir, of 'Tennyson's Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington?'" *Montgomery*: "I like it better than the second reading than I did at the first; there is a simple grandeur of expression in some passages of it which will not be generally appreciated; and on the whole it is respectable,—of course, it is *Tennysonian*." *Holland*: "To me it appears cold, artificial, and declamatory; not, indeed, 'a gazette in rhyme,' but too much like a rhyming syllabus of what has been said of the Duke in newspapers, speeches, and memoirs, since the day of his death: it lacks neither depth of feeling, compass of reflection, nor sublimity of tone. But, in my opinion, the very grandeur and simplicity of his Grace's character, whether as a warrior, a statesman, or a citizen, was unfavourable to the chances of poetical success beyond the attained by the Laureate." *Montgomery*:

of this book was the address to the women of America, which was got into the House, and signed by thousands of women in Great Britain, — 16,220 names being subscribed to it!

"Well, suppose you try your hand; I will give you, at beginning, the lines which I put into my head, while I listened to Mr. Murphy's sermon at the parish church on Thursday:—

‘The Field of Waterloo! the field
Of Waterloo—the unburied dead.’”

“But what of the dead?” *Montgomery*: “Mine was my vision of a moment, involving the life, death, time, and eternity, in relation to the aspect and suggestions of that awful scene on the day after the battle.” *Holland*: “A portentous and pregnant speculation, truly, but I dare not enter upon it. I have been struck in observing how many of your epitaphs and hymns embody allusions to those awful realities, especially that last named by you.” *Montgomery*: “Yes; I am aware of it; you recollect what is said of Javan, in ‘The World before the Flood:’—

‘Wound with his life, through all his feelings wrought,
Death and eternity possess’d his thought.’”

Dec. 14. This evening the Earl of Carlisle delivered before the members of the Mechanic's Institution in Sheffield a Lecture on the Poetry of Gray, as he had previously done at Leeds, before a similar audience, on the Poetry of Pope. Apart from the interest of the occasion, arising from the novel circumstance of a highly accomplished member of the aristocracy reading at an assembly of workmen an elaborate paper on such a branch of *lettres*, it was impossible to appreciate the generous enthusiasm which led the noble lord to select for his theme of eulogy the poet Pope, whose uncomplimentary couplet in allusion to “all the Howards,” well known; and to pay a direct compliment to the genius of Byron, notwithstanding

the more unequivocal tone of disrespect in which he had spoken of the lecturer's grandfather. It moreover, pleasing to recollect that, whatever might be the merits of Frederick the fifth Earl of Carlisle, dramatist, or whatever the justification of his critics, his illustrious grandson could not only plead through him hereditary attachment to the Muses, but respect for the memory of Gray in particular.* Although Montgomery had, on account of his age and infirmities, ceased to attend evening meetings in general, he ventured out on this occasion; and it was gratifying to notice, as he preceded the Earl of Carlisle on the platform, that he was greeted with a round of applause only a degree less enthusiastic than that with which his townspeople welcomed their distinguished lecturer himself. Nor was the Earl of Carlisle insensible to the presence and influence of his most interesting auditor; for, after the exchange of personal congratulations, and when he proceeded to read his lecture, he said, "When I delivered a lecture to my friends at Leeds, I chose for my subject the poetry of Pope. I had previously felt quite uncertain how an address of such a character would be received by an audience mainly composed of persons engrossed by the prosaic and laborious duties of life; but I found that they listened to the sparkling terseness of that poet with an eagerness and apparent approval which I might have found equalled in polished and fastidious assemblies; and it has since occurred to me that there is no reason why I should not make a further experiment in the same direction amidst another community with whom I have also had many previous interchanges of kindly feeling, and in whom I remember to have stated that I

* "Ode on the Death of Gray," in *Carlisle's Poems*, 1791.

recognised ■ kind of sedate, and even ■■■ intelligence, which ■ abundantly exercised upon the hardy and ingenious craft of the district, and which I should think it somewhat of ■ triumph to see thawed into relaxation upon any of the lighter topics of ■■ and literature. Insensible, indeed, ■ the claims of poetry, it would be wholly unfair ■ ■■■■ that they could be, for have they not long fostered the tender and mellow piety of Montgomery ? ■■ they not ■■ among themselves the rugged and ■■ energy of Elliott ?" Interesting ■ the lecture was, and perhaps lyric poetry ■■■■ found ■■■■ dignified and noble expression, ■■ merely read from ■■ author's ■■■■ it would hardly be too much ■ say that the attention of the company was about equally divided between the expressions of the lecturer, and their apparent effect ■■ Montgomery, "who," ■ the editor of a local newspaper remarked, "was evidently greatly delighted with the whole discourse: it ■■ quite ■ picture to ■■ 'The old man eloquent,' manifest his approbation of the manner in which the subject ■■ treated. His lips moved in mute response ■ every sound of versified harmony, and at every expression of fine, manly, or noble sentiment, his eyes sparkled with pleasurable emotion." On ■■ point only, we believe, ■■ there any difference between the Earl of Carlisle and Montgomery in their appreciation ■ the poetry of Gray, but that point is ■ important ■■ ■■ Lordship said "to the amiable natural affections which Gray exhibited, ■■ ■■ ■■ ■■ becoming ■■ of religious sentiment wherever it ■ introduced, and the occasions are not unfrequent, either in ■■ correspondence or ■■ verse, ■■ it kindles ■■ into a noble scorn wherever ■■ called forth by any display of shallow scepticism, or aping of infidel philosophy. He ■■■■ ■■ have always spoken with the utmost ■■

pugnance ■ Bolingbroke ■ Voltaire: in ■ place, he thus pointedly describes himself:—

‘No very great wit, he believed in a God;’

■ therefore ■ not ■ atheist. ■ are afraid the reader of Gray's poems ■ search in vain for any such “religious sentiment” ■ bespeaks, in “a becoming tone,” the Christian believer. Montgomery ■ and ■ an important question on ■ point:—

“What God is intended in the last line of the *Elegy*? ‘The bosom of his father and his God!’ search every fragment of ■ writings of the celebrated author, ■ it ■ ■ this question, simple ■ it is, from them; from the *Elegy* itself it would ■ impossible; except that ■ God of the ‘*Youth to fortune and to fame unknown*’ is meant; ■ that this may have been the ■ God, must be inferred from his worshipper having been buried ‘in a country church-yard.’ There ■ indeed ■ couplet ■ following, in the body of the poem:—

“‘And many a *holy text* around she strews,
To teach the rustic moralist to die;’

but throughout the whole there is not a single allusion ■ ‘an hereafter,’ except what may ■ inferred, by courtesy, from the concluding line already mentioned. After the couplet above quoted, the poet leaves his ‘rustic moralist ■ die,’ and very pathetically refers to the natural unwillingness of ■ humblest individual to be forgotten, ■ the ‘longing, lingering look,’ which ■ miserable ■ behind, on leaving ‘the ■ precincts of the cheerful day;’ ■ hope, ■ fear, doubt, nor faith, concerning a *future* state, seems ever ■ have touched ■ poet's apprehensions, exquisitely ■ have ■ with all ■ ‘mortal man’ ■ composition of these unrivalled ■ as;—unrivalled truly they are, though there is not an ■

in them beyond the church-yard, in which they are to have been written." *

Montgomery : "I was engaged up to the [redacted] of going to Lord Carlisle's lecture with the composition of a centenary hymn for the 'single sisters,' who every day celebrate their establishment, as a separate branch of the community at Fulneck, in 1752. You [redacted] feel the [redacted] interest in the subject that I do :"—

"On the pilgrimage of woe,
When our Saviour walk'd below,
He, whose voice awoke the dead,
[redacted] where to lay his head.

"Yet, on [redacted] hill of rest,
Oft He loved to be a guest,
Where two sister-handmaids dwelt,
In whose home, at home [redacted] felt.

"FULNECK-Hill to-day shall be
Our delightful BETHANY;
Dwell, LORD JESUS, where [redacted] dwell,
God with [redacted] Immanuel.

"In [redacted] hearts, do Thou appear,
Let [redacted] spirits [redacted] Thee here,
Till, call'd hence by Thee, in love,
To THY BETHANY above."

Dec. [redacted] *Holland* : "If the Earl of Carlisle's graceful peroration †, in favour of erecting a bronze statue in Sheffield, to the memory of the 'Corn Law Rhymers,' was by [redacted] persons deemed rather out of place, [redacted] least, as you [redacted] perceive, evoked a poetical argument, in the same direction, from the pen of Walter Savage Landor." *Montgomery* : "I have just read the lines in the newspaper, and very clever and spirited they [redacted] :—

* [redacted] Essay to "Christian Poet."

† At the close of his lecture on Gray.

" Three Elliotts there have been, three glorious men,
 Each in his generation. One was doom'd,
 By despotism and prelacy, to pine
 In the deep dungeon, and to pine for law :
 A second [redacted] thunderbolt and flame,
 When Gaul and Spaniard moor'd their pinnaces,
 Screaming defiance at Gibraltar's frown :
 A third came calmly on, and ask'd the rich
 To give laborious hunger daily bread.'

But there was surely at least another Elliott, who
 might have been included in this exemplary category.
 I allude to him who was called — and justly — the
 'Apostle of the Indians.' Nor was the Corn Law
 Rhymer himself forgetful of the memory or the virtues
 of his devoted missionary namesake, when describing
 how—

" 'The moon-beam [redacted] o'er [redacted] Gospel Oak,
 [redacted] whose shade Newhaven's [redacted] kept
 Their first sweet sabbath.' " *

Holland : " And I should be disposed to mention, as an
 honour to the [redacted] Sir Thomas Elyott, who flourished
 in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and was neither [redacted]
 learned nor less respected in his day, than the [redacted] of
 the triad recorded in Mr. Landor's lines."

Dec. 30—31. *Montgomery* : "To-morrow is [redacted] last
 day of the year; [redacted] up to the Mount and get your
 tea with us; and if Miss Gales should happen to be
 out, you and I [redacted] mis-spend the evening very pleasantly
 together. I [redacted] do nothing now, but mis-spend
 time!" *Holland* : "My dear Sir, you are [redacted] severe
 [redacted] yourself: do you [redacted] a plant which has pro-
 duced its leaves, its bud, and [redacted] blossom in their season,

* [redacted] "Withered Wild Flowers," and Note.

is he regarded as mis-spending time while ripening its seed?" *Montgomery*: "No; the flower and the seed are not idle; though I am!" Mr. Holland accordingly visited the poet, and spent a few hours with him very pleasantly. After tea, the postman brought a cartel, which contained the proof-sheet of "Original Hymns"—a grateful coincidence between the completion of the book and the end of the year. *Montgomery*: "I am glad the work is so far concluded: I have felt, at every step, that you were leading me through the volume; but it is only right to say that I entirely approve of your arrangement of the matter; and your only recompense be the consciousness of having done such an act of kindness." In reading the matter, it was found that some of the compositions were repeated in print; and it became a puzzling question what should be substituted, as *Montgomery* had only the hymn above named as written for a festival of the "Single Sisters" at Fulneck. *Holland*: "That will do very well." *Montgomery*: "But the title?" *Holland*: "Why head it '*For a Christian Sisterhood*'?" And so it is entitled in the book. About ten o'clock the servants came into the room; and *Montgomery*, after reading a chapter in the Bible, knelt down, and, in the sentiments appropriate "for the close of a year," in his friend the Rev. Thomas Cotterill's "Family Prayers," offered the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for past mercies, and fervent intercessions for the future. Having the venerable bard comfortably seated in the "presentation chair," with his pipe and glass, Mr. Holland bade him an affectionate "good night," and received from him an anticipatory congratulation on the approach of the "New Year."

10

PUBLICATION OF "ORIGINAL HYMN,"—LETTER FROM MISS ALLEN.—
DESTRUCTION OF DOMESTIC CHURCH.—STANZEL.—THE DEAKIN
CHARITY.—DONATIONS TO FULLER SCHOOL.—
LETTER TO REV. S. D. DIRECTOR OF HIS
WILL.—AMERICAN EDITION OF HIS POEMS.—SIR HUDSON LOWE
AND NAPOLEON.—TRANSLATED COMPLIMENTS.—LETTER TO REV.
J. OF THE FORT MONTELEONE.—LETTER TO THE
MAYOR OF BOSTON.—

JANUARY 17. Mr. Everett and Mr. ██████ called upon Montgomery, the former ██████ present a message of kind remembrance, with ██████ he ██████ charged, from Joseph Cottle* ██████ the ██████ poet. The ██████ tion turned mostly upon several interesting ██████ in Bristol, which ██████ just been explored by ██████ Everett, —as the birth-places of Chatterton and Southey; ██████ burial-places of William Canynges and ██████ Savage; as well ██████ church of St. Mary Redcliffe, with its memorable muniment-room—all of which had, ██████ previous years, attracted the curiosity of Montgomery, when he used to visit “the metropolis of the West,” during his brother’s residence there.

On the first of February appeared "Original Hymns, for Public, Social, and Private Devotion, by James Montgomery:" with the following [redacted] [redacted] one of them, as [redacted] [redacted] the [redacted] page:—

* Who died June 7, 1853.

"From young and old, every breath,
 And praise arise;
 Be 'All daily offering,'—death
 'Evening sacrifice.'"

In the preface, the author adverts to the extent which his compositions of this class have been appropriated by compilers; adding, that "of this he has complained, being rather humbly thankful that any imperfect strains of his should be thus employed in giving glory to God highest, promoting earth peace, and diffusing good toward men. Of the liberties taken by some of these borrowers of his effusions, to modify certain passages according to their peculiar views and notions," he must complain: reminding such persons that, if they "cannot conscientiously adopt his diction and doctrine, it is surely unreasonable in them to impose upon him *theirs*, which he might honestly hesitate to receive." He closes, what he calls "this egotistical preamble to the serious work of a long life—now passing fourscore years," with the quotation and application of the following appropriate lines from Bishop Ken, "a sainted authority on such a subject:"—

"And should the well-meant song I leave behind,
 With Jesus' lovers acceptance find,
 'Twill heighten the joys of heaven I know,
 My saints sing God's praise below."

A handsomely bound copy was addressed:—

"To my friend, Mr. John Holland, who kindly and ably assisted me in the arrangement of the volume. MONTGOMERY, the Mount, Feb. 1853."

This compliment might have been better justified by

the fact, if the party whom it is paid, had made rather "more haste than good speed," in order to accomplish, at this favourably passing moment, an object which, dear as it was to the poet's heart, would certainly have been achieved by himself. It was gratified by the following cordial acknowledgment of a copy which he presented to one of his earliest literary friends:—

Mr Aikin to James Montgomery.

DEAR FRIEND,

Many thanks to you for your kind present of your volume of Hymns. They were very agreeable and acceptable to me, not alone as a proof of your never-failing remembrance and friendship, but for their own merits. I tell you the simplest truth in saying, that I regard you as quite the head of all living writers of this kind of poetry within my knowledge. Your Hymns have an earnestness, a fervour of piety, and an unmistakeable sincerity which goes straight to the heart. In the style, too, you are perfectly successful, and it is one in which few are masters. Clear, direct, simple, plain to the humblest member of a congregation, yet glowing with poetic fire, and steeped in Scripture. Not in any peculiar phrases so much, which might give an air of quaintness, as filled with its spirit, and with allusions to characters and incidents often extremely happy, and might well be called ingenious. My father would not have forgotten to mention a merit to which he was extremely sensible, and indeed I—that the lines flow very harmoniously. They are richly rhymed—with their full complement of two and a half. This is an aid to memory as well as to the imagination. I rejoice that you lend your powerful support to the anti-Calvinistic theology, and strenuously inculcate every principle that is saved by the gospel.*

* It is entirely our sentiment; and no doubt, would many persons to whom the epithet of Aikin's

"Although you may think it right to [redacted] your indignation against [redacted] interpolators [redacted] your Hymns, [redacted] [redacted] reason I should: and I do not. It is [redacted] intolerable [redacted] —worse by far than forging one's [redacted] [redacted] a cheque; [redacted] nothing, I [redacted], but the paucity of really good hymns [redacted] speak exactly [redacted] language of [redacted] [redacted] compiler [redacted] [redacted] congregation, could have tempted decent people [redacted] [redacted] guilty of it. Poor Dr. Watts has been victimised to such an [redacted] in [redacted] [redacted] for [redacted] a century past, [redacted] I have been [redacted] [redacted] genuine [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] curiosity scarcely anywhere to be met with. Better fate be yours; but I [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] you, [redacted] you will write so well, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] your [redacted] with [redacted] much point [redacted] force, [redacted] of dwelling in neutral generalities, equally suited [redacted] all [redacted] of Christians.

"Are you [redacted] that I have again taken up my abode in the old spot where [redacted] [redacted] each other's face for the last time, doubtless, in [redacted] world? Yes; [redacted] Christmas twelvemonth, I quitted Wimbledon with my niece and her family, after what had been to [redacted] [redacted] five years' sojourn in [redacted] a strange place, and [redacted] with them to dear [redacted] Hampstead, where I have a few friends [redacted] relations [redacted] remaining, whose society is worth far [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] than the most splendid [redacted] acquaintances could possibly be. One dear brother, my eldest, [redacted] still left me; and we are but three miles apart. Here I am [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] of [redacted] amiable young family, [redacted] whom I [redacted] myself almost [redacted] a grandmama. Many, many blessings [redacted] be thankful for [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] of seventy-one! Of your health I have lately heard good tidings. Long may [redacted] continue!

[redacted] may seem [redacted] especially to apply. For instance, to my nothing of [redacted] testimonies—the editor of the [redacted] newspaper organ of the Independent body, *quasi* Calvinistic, said, "Mr. Montgomery may challenge to himself the distinguishing merit of having furnished a larger [redacted] of occasional hymns of [redacted] excellence [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] as specific adaptation, than any other hymnodist [redacted] [redacted] English language."—*Patriot*, [redacted] 31. [redacted]

Believe me ever, dear and respected friend, yours most sincerely,

"LUOY A. H. H."

"Hampstead, 17th 18 1841"

On the evening of February 28th, the fine old church of St. George, in Doncaster, was entirely destroyed by fire; and among the plans which were promptly devised for raising funds for its restoration, a plan was hit upon, Montgomery being applied to for a contribution in verse. He accordingly produced thirteen stanzas, under the title of "Doncaster Church, as it was, as it is, and as it shall be;" with the appropriate Scripture motto:—"Our holy, and our beautiful House, where our fathers praised Thee, is burned up with fire."—Isaiah, lxi. 11. :—

I.

"Holy and beautiful it stood,
That House of God, God's House of Prayer,
While in 'the old Paths,' true and good,
Our pious fathers worshipp'd there.

"There rich and poor were wont to meet;
The Lord, the Maker of them all,
Gave audience from his mercy-seat,
And rain'd down blessings at their call.

"The breath of prayer, the voice of praise,
Thence from earth to heaven,
And brought heaven down on happy days,
The happiest of the weekly morn.

"For then the welcome gospel spake
Spoke warning, counsel, comfort,
To those who meekly and lowly;
The sow'd, but gave the harvest.

"O Mother Church! from stage to stage,
Thus didst thou train thy family
To walk on Christian pilgrimage,
Time's travellers to eternity.

II.

"To everything beneath the sun,
Comes a last day, — to thee one came;
The evening sacrifice was done;
Midnight beheld thee wrapt in flame!
Thyself wast thy own funeral pyre,
Involving smoke thy baleful shroud;
Light amidst that fire,
Sunrise a spectre through that cloud.

"Temple and altar were consumed;
Yet where the dead of centuries sleep,
Their ashes, round thy walls entomb'd,
Ground for unborn ages keep.

"Though, like a valley of dry bones,
Thy relics lie, with humble trust,
Thy sons take pleasure in thy stones,
They grieve to see thee in the dust.

III.

"Thou wast no pageant of the past,
No wreck beyond redemption thine;
Thy ~~name~~ ~~not~~ ~~thy~~ last,
A better comes, — behold the sign!

"Let doubt, and fear, and unbelief
Murmur and mutter, '*Woe! Woe! Woe!*'
To check their impotence of grief,
Faith, Hope, and Charity, cry '*No!*'

"The evidence of things unseen,
Faith prophecies, '*Thou shalt arise!*'
Hope hails it through the veil between.
And Charity will realise.

" Amidst the glories of our land,
 (Thy Sister Churches,) Thou again,
 Holy and beautiful shalt stand,
 A joy of angels, and of men.

"The Mount, Sheffield, April 2. 1853."

These he got printed in an embossed letter sheet, signing every copy with his name; so they formed welcome *souvenirs* of the poet, as well as profitable articles of sale* at the Mansion House, in the month of April.

At a meeting of governors of the "Deakin Charity," for the election of participants; and at which the Archbishop of York, patron, presided. It was agreed that no addresses should be delivered except that made from the chair at the opening of the business; and in this, Mr. Grace having mentioned that it was his birthday, he should have to leave early, being expected to dine with his brother, Archdeacon Musgrave, at Halifax, Montgomery, who sat next him, instantly rose and said, "May it please your Grace, I am going to infringe the very proper regulation of this meeting, by making a speech, but I beg to be permitted for myself, and I trust every person present will concur in the sentiment, I wish you in the plain language of truth—*many happy returns of the day*; and may I hereafter often be reminded of it in future by your Grace's presence at the season as the patron, and of the administrators, of this excellent charity." This sponse, so unexpected, under the circumstances, was

* We do not know exactly the amount realized by Montgomery's offering; but the managers acknowledged that the poet had "given a good helping hand to produce upwards of £100." There was also a copy of verses by Mr. M. F. Tupper.

very courteously received by the Archbishop, ■■ enthusiastically by the meeting.

The liberal offering of ■■ which, under the designation of ■■ "Economy Boy (from 1777 ■■ 1789)," Montgomery had given towards the education of ■■ ravian ministers' children, ■■ Fulneck, in 1852, ■■ followed this year, by ■■ "second donation of 50*l*., to ■■ Jubilee Fund of the schools."

Having been announced ■■ take the chair at a Wesleyan Missionary Meeting about to be held in Carver Street Chapel, ■■ the 10th of May, Montgomery addressed ■■ following note to the Rev. S. D. Waddy:—

"The Mount, May 10, 1853.

"Rev. ■■ ■■ Sir,

"Some indisposition from ■■ troublesome cold, the inclement weather, but especially distressing intelligence received ■■ morning from my dearest relatives ■■ Fulneck, with ■■ usual propensities of an incorrigible procrastination,—these compel me, ■■ ■■ hour, ■■ ■■ myself upon the mercy of my Wesleyan friends, intreating their indulgence to forgive me when I say that I ■■ not venture to ■■ before them at their Missionary Meeting ■■ ■■ ing, as I hoped to have done. I am ■■ you will kindly plead in ■■ behalf for this apparent lack of service. My sympathy with them ■■ been touched by reading, ■■ morning, ■■ remembering *their* ■■ of Zion, from ■■ Psalm, ■■ which the greater part may ■■ happily applied ■■ relative situation among Christian communities ■■ at home ■■ abroad, (omitting only ■■ ■■ to 6). I leave you ■■ ■■ same, and thank 'this God' ■■ ■■ 'God, ■■ ■■ ever;' yea, who ■■ be your guide until death, ■■ you, ■■ pledge, are ■■ ■■ your covenant ■■ grace ■■ Him; for *He* was your 'Father's God,' and will be your *Children's*. ■■ ■■ opportunity of begging you ■■ accept the accompanying volume of my collected hymns, which ■■ length, under some disadvantages,

have been published. I have delayed longer than I intended to offer you this token of my esteem: but I hope 'better late than never,' your kindness will deem it.

"I am, very truly, your friend and servant,

"J. MONTGOMERY.

"Rev. S. D. Waddy, Wesley College."

On the morning next but one following, Mr. Holland called on the Mount, and found the poet very much disturbed about his brother's widow, whose critical illness had suggested the apology in the foregoing letter. He had written a few lines on a bazaar about which he held at Woodhouse Grove, near Leeds, a place which he had used to visit in his school days, and before it was purchased as an educational establishment for the use of Methodist preachers. The same evening Mr. Holland met him at Park Grange, where, after tea, the conversation turned on the subject of eating animal food, — two of the popular "Vegetarian" leaders, Messrs. Brotherton and Harvey, having called upon his friend, and invited him to attend a public meeting of the same on the previous day; this, however, he declined, differing from them as entirely in doctrine as in practice on the main point. He mentioned the comparatively small income which he had derived from the sale of his works, during the last year or two, notwithstanding the exhaustion of a whole edition of the collected poems; and on the remark being made, that the disposal of a thousand copies of a half-guinea volume of republished verse, would really be complimentary to him, he replied in the lines of Spenser: —

"So [] peacock's spotted train,
[] wondrous bright Argus' blazing eye;
[] who rewards [] ere the more for-thy,
Or feeds him once the fuller by a grain?"

May 1. *Montgomery*: "Mr. Holland, how your brother-in-law spell his name?" *Holland*: "Brammall." *Montgomery*: "I ask, because, as you know, there are many varieties of it in the town: I mean to introduce it, with your own, into my will. I have now brought my will into such a shape, that, at my death, they need not give either you or any one else much trouble; but mention the matter to your brother." Of course, the subject of the poet's wish was immediately intimated to the party named, who was impressed himself willing to undertake any service to Mr. Montgomery.

May 27. Called at the Mount, and found on Montgomery's table a beautifully executed reprint of his *Collected Poems* in one volume, now present from the publishers, Lindsey and Blackiston of Philadelphia. The permitted importation of an American book having English copyright, was, in this case, explained by the following official note on the first leaf:—

"Seen by the officers of Customs, and being a presentation copy to the author, ordered to be delivered by the landing officer."

The book was a curiously exact imitation of the English work in every respect: the ingenuity of the publishers being, as the author remarked at the time, only exceeded by the enterprise with which they had ventured on the reproduction of such a mass of poetry under, as he chose to say, "so unpopular a name." *Holland*: Taking up *Lady Emmeline Stuart Wortley's* volume, entitled "&c." "Have you been reading this book?" *Montgomery*: "I have looked into it; and it is delighted with it, because it carries her to Tunia." *Holland*: "I like the work for the liveliness of the style: *Lady Stuart Wortley* is a capital talker; and I

should very much enjoy listening to a conversation between her and the Earl of Carlisle." *Montgomery*: "If it were on my papers, I should certainly side with her ladyship in the sentiment of detestation which she has recorded against those vile patterns frequently met with: it sometimes almost gives me a night-mare in mid-day when I am compelled to see and look at them!"

June. Mr. Everett, being casually in the country for a few hours, walked up with Mr. Holland to Mount. The poet found the poet in the parlour, reading "Memoirs of Moore," which, he remarked, appeared less entertaining than might have been anticipated; he was afraid his own worthy publishers, who had dealt so liberally toward the party mainly interested in the price said to be paid for the work, might not realise their own by the transaction. The morning was glorious, and vegetation in the garden burst of its luxuriance: this *Montgomery* pointed out in the garden surrounding the lawn in front of his own residence; he then accompanied his friends to look at his namesake tree, the "purple beech," from which he slipped a twig and gave it to Mr. Everett, who wanted a leaf, as a memento. As the party walked towards the town together, they particularly admired the plantations about the villas on both sides of the road; the poet especially praising the beauty of the lilacs and the laburnums, which, he, "are, everywhere, here about, found growing and flowering together in the friendship, the Pylades and Orceutes of ornamental trees." This was the last interview between them "we three!"

A few days afterwards Mr. Holland found the poet with "The Loves of the Angels" before him. "I

wonder," and he, "who [redacted] this work now, [redacted] among that class of fashionable people who professed [redacted] rapturous a degree of admiration of it in the author's ears, [redacted] during the hey-day of [redacted] fame. The versification [redacted] often exquisite; but the stories appear [redacted] me more revolting than ever, [redacted] they [redacted] surely do [redacted] any one who reflects [redacted] the subjects. What [redacted] between Moore's themes and his versification, and those of [redacted] George Albany, a Sunday-school teacher, in [redacted] 'Jubilee Hymn Book,' which has just been [redacted] me; — do read them." Mr. Holland then read the [redacted] which alluded to the obscure origin and unambitious aims, but useful operations, of the London Sunday School Union, Montgomery expressing special admiration of the closing [redacted] ;—

"Since then full fifty years are past,
And nearly [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] dead,
And those who live are failing fast,
With dark'ning eye and whitening head.

"The sky gave out no sign that night,
[redacted] rabble bore those heroes home;
And yet their spirits struck a light,
To burn for [redacted] yet [redacted] come."

August 14. Mr. Holland took [redacted] with Montgomery: he found the poet reading Forsyth's "Account of Bonaparte's Captivity [redacted] Saint Helena." *Montgomery*: "I am glad to [redacted] from this book that Sir Hudson Lowe had not only seen a good deal of stirring service, but had honourably distinguished himself [redacted] a soldier. I always thought [redacted] captivity [redacted] have been [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] irksome, if not as humiliating, [redacted] that of his prisoner: this account certainly widens the distance between [redacted] [redacted] points of comparison, not [redacted] the advantage

of the latter party." "I have just gentlemen, of whom passed days with Sir Hudson Lowe at Saint Helena; the other, Anglo-India merchant. The latter argues—as many other persons have done—that, had the Governor acted in a spirit of conciliation and confidence towards the object of his care, they might have lived together on better terms." *Montgomery*: "Not they: it was clearly the design of the ex-emperor and those about him, first, to harass the governor into the commission of a reprehensible act of misconduct, if possible; or in any way to attract the eyes of their partisans in Europe toward themselves, as suffering not only transportation, but insult; and, for that end, they constantly sacrificed every opportunity of improving the position of Napoleon to personal comfort, which Sir Hudson Lowe appears to have been really and constantly seeking to embrace; for in hardly a single instance he treated either with the courtesy or the candour to which he was, even as a 'jailor,' least officially, entitled." *Holland*: "Whatever ground there might be for the latter imputation on one side, it might surely be substantiated on the other by a single incident: Hudson Lowe told my informant that, being out one day, he saw Bonaparte and his suite walking along a road which rendered a meeting inevitable: the Governor immediately dismounted, turned his horse aside, took off his hat, and awaited the coming up of his prisoner, who slowly rode past without the slightest recognition or display of soldierly courtesy!" *Montgomery*: "Such a salutation would have been turned into a corporal's salute." *Holland*: "My Indian friend contended that had Sir Pulteney Malcolm been Governor, he had Sir Hudson Lowe allowed his prisoner, from the beginning, that amount of freedom in his range

exercise the island, granted a later period, relation of the parties would have stood on a better footing." *Montgomery*: "I doubt it; but without making any comparison between the character manners of the two soldiers, it is enough to say that, Pulteney not then officially charged with custody Napoleon, the greater freedom of intercourse between them only such as might be expected; for freedom of range of exercise, a degree of confidence may, in many cases, be extended to a prisoner, after some experience of his conduct, some trial of the means used for his security, which hardly, in many cases, be granted before." *Holland*: "It is, of course, quite clear that, if the emperor had been allowed the extent of freedom in his residence that he had towards the close of his residence on the island of Saint Helena, only would the chances of his safe retention have been lessened, but the probability of his having had to suffer the chagrin of finding his boundaries narrowed, in consequence of abuse of the confidence reposed in him and his suite, would have been increased: it was, his conduct was calculated to beget confidence; it was forgotten how recently he had broken parole on Elba." *Montgomery*: "This was from the very first, I think, one of the most wicked ever committed, foreseeing, as he would have done, the terrible consequences that would follow. His strict detention, therefore, was the circumstance out of which it was to be judged of by itself, and not by comparison with other cases; it stands much alone in the history and experience of nations, the rock on which he was banished alone in the Atlantic." *Holland*: "The story of Napoleon's captivity comes over my mind, the reading of an heroic

poem: in some hands it would have made a powerful drama." *Montgomery*: "In such hands as those of *Æschylus* or *Sophocles*."

One day in the autumn of this year he received a packet of *MT* poetry from the pen of a young lady, a relative of Judge Stroud, of Philadelphia, U.S., whose mother, a quakeress, he presumes, from the date of her accompanying note (6th, 11th mo., 1853) apologised for addressing him a friend who, although personally known, had been familiar to her from childhood; and so much, she added, that her judgment justify her early admiration, that "were I to visit England, I would rather see James Montgomery, the poet of Sheffield, than Queen Victoria on her throne." Gratified, as he might well be, with expressions of transatlantic respect, which might almost be to increase with his years, and willing as he ever was to welcome visitors from the United States, he could not but feel how liable the abstract charm of the poet was, to be dissolved by an ordinary interview with the man. Generally, however, and as we speak of the period of his old age, these visits repaid, by an increased conviction of the simplicity and reality of the poet's religious character, any disappointment which might be the absence of personal *empressment*, or intellectual display. In the autumn of 1854 summer three American gentlemen called at the Mount, one of whom, as it afterwards appeared, was the writer of a series of letters from Europe, which appeared in the "New York Observer," under the signature of "Ireneus." In one of these communications he says:—

"On reaching Sheffield, and stepping from the train, I asked the cab-driver who came right off, I knew where James Montgomery resided."

"'Oh, **the** poet, you mean,' he said, 'sure I do; **he** lives **on** **The Mount.**' **He** was our man, and **we** **had** **a** **part** in taking possession of **his** carriage. **It** **was** **a** **smoky, dingy, manufacturing town, reminding me** strongly **of** Pittsburgh, Pa., where **—**, **but** I will say nothing about **that**. The evidences* of the poverty and degradation of **the** lowest **quarters** of an English city were **to** **be** **seen** **in** **the** **streets** through which **we** passed **and** **we** wound along up **a** hill for nearly three miles. **As** **we** went **on** **we** found elegant residences, with all the show of wealth and refinement **in** gardens and architecture, such **as** **we** **look** for **in** **a** **town** where labour is cheap, and profits **of** capitalists enormous. How the poor live in Britain is **a** problem more mysterious **than** it was when **I** **was** among them. **We** **are** looking for a poet, and here is prose. On the summit of the hill, in **a** fine house **at** commanding a splendid prospect of the city, and green fields, and forests, such **a** poet in full communion with his fellowmen would love **to** **live** on, **we** found **the** **door** of JAMES MONTGOMERY on **the** door. We had heard that the venerable poet **was** now **so** advanced in life, **and** **so** **in** health, that he was not willing **to** **take** company; **but** it **was** with many misgivings that I stood at his door and asked the servant **if** **he** **was** in. Learning that he **was** **at** home, I handed her my card, and **asked** her say that three gentlemen from America would **be** glad **to** **pay** their respects **to** Mr. Montgomery. **When** I had finished my message, he stepped from **the** library into **the** hall, and received **us** with **a** greeting that **went** **to** my heart. 'You **do** me too much honour,' **he** said. 'Come in, **and** your friends.' He led **us** **into** his study, and **we** **sat** our sitting down.

"I **asked** **him**, 'You **are** known, Sir, in America, **and** **are** loved **there** **as** **well** **born.**'

* What these "evidences" were, the writer does not state, but most assuredly the inference drawn from them in the letter above quoted is indefensible.

† In the view of The Mount which forms the vignette of Vol. VI. Montgomery's house was that indicated by the last door near the end of the building on the left hand.

"He replied, 'I thank you. It is grateful to me to know that anything I have ever written has been a pleasure to others. Your country has published many beautiful poems by my pen, and I am grateful for the friendly regard.'

"He spoke with some hesitation, and appeared feeble, though far more than I had expected. A small thin man, 'about my size,' slightly stooping, with a bright eye, and sharp face, would have appeared as me, had I met him in the street, as the man to write the 'Wanderer of the Flood,' or the 'Wanderer of Switzerland.' If there are men in both of these poems beauties of the highest order, specimens of the power of pathos equal to the poetry of any man who died within the last twenty-five years, then I will confess that I lost a crown going to meet their author, 'Few men,' I said to him, 'have lived as you have, to hear the verdict of posterity.'

"'Yes,' he replied, 'I have survived nearly all my contemporaries.'

"'And you have survived the attacks of the *Burgh Review*, which predicted you would not live long.'

"The old man laughed gaily at this reminiscence of a slashing review forty years ago and said, 'The *Review* was young then, and they thought they would kill some one in every number; and they sought to make a victim of me, but I lived through it. Those early trials, and I had others; trials are good for us, and they will soon be over.'

"'May I ask how old you are now, Sir?'

"'I am eighty-two years old on the next day of November next.'

"I could refrain from telling him the fourth of November was my birth-day also; but 'How will you be, Sir?' he added. I was unwilling to add another year to my age, so that I was just one-half of my age. And in a religious conversation, in which he spoke of peaceful but trembling hope that he would be upon the promised rest; his lips quivered, his voice broke, his big eyes dropped from his eyes, as he

spoke of his unworthiness to be accepted, but of the trust in the Saviour, whose grace is sufficient for the sinners. He rose and left, and as we shook hands in silence, Edwards repeated one of the poet's own stanzas from 'The Grave':—

'There is a calm for those who weep,
A rest for weary pilgrims found.'

And he then said, 'I hope we shall meet in heaven,' and following me to the door, he said a farewell.

Another American visitor, who called upon the poet, and published an account of his impressions on England this year, is less accurate. We allude to Mr. Inckerman, who describes The Mount,—a handsome stone building, the pillars and pediment of which do no discredit to their Parthenaic model,—as "a of neat stuccoed buildings;" adding that he found the poet "in a snug little parlour; and on the opposite side of the fire sat his wife, reading prayers ! ! !"

James Montgomery to the Master Cutler.

"The Mount, Sept. 1844."

"DEAR SIR,

"An original portrait of my late friend Mr. George (the which I painted of him on my return from his missionary 'Voyages and Travels round the Globe'), was presented to me, by the Cutlers' Company. It was promised several years ago; but various delays, and particularising, have prevented its delivery. Monday last, I found it, without previous communication, at the Mount, on my return to town in the afternoon. The proposed gift was accepted at the time by your predecessor, on the part of the Corporation; I have been vexatiously disappointed that (Mrs. Woodcroft, of Grange, Fulwood) could

earlier have accomplished her public-spirited You may probably have heard, I can earnestly testify, with thousands of his surviving contemporaries, Mr. Bennet for many years one of the leading philanthropist in his native town. I must multiply words in this hasty communication, merely add, that if you Company's officers will please a competent person to take charge of the burthen, it forwarded without delay, an application here. I this because some person in the trade will best know how should be transmitted with safety. The painting by Jackson, of some of the artists connected with the Royal Academy.

"I am, truly and respectfully,

"Your friend and servant,

"J MONTGOMERY.

"W A Matthews, Esq "

This portrait has been appropriately hung exactly over the marble bust of the poet in the vestibule of the Cutlers' Hall.

John M. Rev James Everett.

"Sheffield, 1833

"MY DEAR FRIEND,

"You inquire after poet. Mr. Elms, who delled his profile for the prize medal of the School of Design, being to execute a bust, wished me my influence get Montgomery to favour him with a sitting two. I accordingly went up the Mount yesterday morning, and found our friend unwell, that I little chance of broaching my commission; indeed, he desired me send the doctor to him. After awhile, seeing Miss mix for him, on his own request, a large dose of medicine, I persuaded him, instead of swallowing it, take an easy walk with me to the adjacent Botanical Gardens. You will remember these grounds, so deservedly admired for their beautiful situation arranged

ment: in fact, soon had entered the gateway, my companion praised remark, few noblemen could boast such a pleasure plot as this, fewer such a prospect beyond it. The air,—perhaps I may add, the situation,—and the exhilarating scenery, evidently relieved him, and he lingered, with mutual delight, in the noble terraces, neither of us being incommoded by the tropical temperature of one department. In the 'Victoria House, where the thermometer stood 80° Fahrenheit, 'This is pleasant,' said he, and there, in a circular tank, floated the *Queen Lily* in full bloom reflected on the water, 'like Narcissus contemplating his own beauty,' and surrounded by eight or nine circular leaves, some of them nearly six feet in diameter! He lingered over a specimen of the *saccharum officinarum*, which evidently recalled to him scenes and circumstances connected with the *West Indies*. As he walked on the lawn, the poet appeared in so genial a mood, that I ventured to introduce the artist's petition relative to the bust to my surprise, he assented, and promised sitting in my room the morning. He then bought cakes at the lodge, for the purpose of feeding the ducks and the geese of the ponds. While we were thus engaged, Mr. Law, the curator, came up, and took me to look at the plants which Montgomery had planted, remarking of some of them, 'You see, Mr. Montgomery, how this oak has grown, it has not lost any time since it was planted.' Montgomery 'I am glad of it for that more than can be said of both before and since.' On parting with him, I was glad to hear him say that he felt better for the walk and talk.

"This morning, according to his promise, I met Mr. Ellis, and the bust, although yet in a very rough state, promises to be satisfactory and striking, for it is on a scale larger than life. As the basis of a conversation, I read a note which a lady had just given me, as an autograph of Gibson, the sculptor. Montgomery expressed himself much pleased with the writer's incidental remarks on the principles of his art, and especially with the allusion

an early dream, ■■■ mother's prophetic interpretation ■ it.

"In the midst of our speculations on ■■■ subjects, the poet suddenly pointed to ■ passing cloud, 'splendid as ■■■ of an archangel!' ■■■ followed by others moving ■ glorious procession ■■■ narrow ■■■ through which ■ artist ■■■ the light ■ ■■■ and, doubtless, the ensuing conversation ■ 'cloudland' ■■■ vastly edifying ■ ■■■ artist, who ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ silence, and, ■ I have said, with ■ pleasing degree of preliminary ■■■■ I am sure you will share with me in ■■ satisfaction of knowing ■■■ another precious ■■■■ is ■■■ likely ■ ■■■ ■■■ those which already exist, ■■ embodying ■ likeness of our honoured friend. I am, ■■■ dear friend, yours very sincerely,

"J. HOLLAND.

"Rev. J. Everett."

The cloud speculation, alluded ■ in the foregoing letter, did not terminate in itself. As the poet failed to make his appearance at the time appointed for the ■■■ sitting, Mr. Holland called at the Mount, and found him seated by the fire with a green shade ■■■ ■■■ of his eyes, which ■■■ considerably inflamed — the effect, he believed, of looking too intently at the gleamy sky on the preceding day. The artist was thus prevented from finishing the bust, ■ he had intended, for exhibition at the annual meeting of the "■ ■■■ School of Design." Our friend, not being aware that he had been the cause of such a disappointment, kept away from that meeting, lest ■ should there be confronted by his "double" in clay; and ■ clever young pupil ■■■ thus disappointed of ■■ pleasure he had anticipated ■ receiving from ■■■ ■■■ the "Montgomery Prize," awarded ■■■ year, ■■ ■ beautiful composition imitative of "Natural Flowers," on the pilaster of an ornamental fire-place.

Nov. 16. A public ■■■ in ■■■ of ■■■ ■■■■

Mechanics' Library, was in the Cutlers' Hall, on which occasion it was anticipated that Montgomery, president, would have been asked to take the chair; and his name was introduced into the following paragraph in the report, as read by the Secretary:—

"The members of this library have felt it a high honour to have the name of James Montgomery of officers and friends. Mr. Montgomery took an active part in the history of this library in the maturity of his days, and his intended presence here this evening furnishes a renewed proof of his continued attachment to the interests of this institution. May the recollections of the past be a source of consolation to him in his retirement, and may his anticipations of the future shed a serene serenity on his remaining days!"

The regret which Earl Fitzwilliam, the mayor, and others, expressed at the absence of the poet, was in some degree compensated by the reading of the following letter, which testified the writer's unabated solicitude for the success of an Institution to which he could no longer render the active service he had done in past years:—

James Montgomery to the Worshipful Mayor of Sheffield.

"DEAR SIR,

"At the age of four-score and two years, which I reached a few days since, I trust that I may plead inability to attend and take a personal part in public meetings, especially when held in the evening. You will, therefore, please apologise for my absence from the *soirée* of the members of the Mechanics' Library to-night. Having been connected with it from its commencement, I can bear testimony to its great and progressive usefulness; for, after passing through occasional trials*, it stands at this time a monument of

* The trials here alluded to had been repeated struggles cre-

good sense ■ right feeling of ■ very important ■ of our townspeople, for whom and by whom ■ projected, ■ been conducted, and ■ now upheld, with ■ aid. ■ is, therefore, almost literally, ■ work, ■ will ■ inheritance to their children, ■ their children's children, if these ■ prove worthy of their ■ by enjoying in their day, and transmitting ■ posterity, ■ already collected, ■ henceforth ■ compound interest, from generation ■ generation. I am glad that you hope to have ■ presence of ■ kind-hearted neighbour, the Earl Fitzwilliam, whose countenance ■ good counsel will encourage ■ you ■ first occasion, when your ■ been conspicuously brought before the public; for, ■ by display and excitement, but by patient perseverance in well-doing, you have accomplished the commendable purpose which was in the hearts of ■ founders of the Mechanics' Library; and in proportion as the members of it ■ benefited, ■ whole character and condition of the community itself will ■ exalted and ameliorated. With ■ wishes for such a gradual consummation,

"I am truly, your and their friend and servant,

"■ MONTGOMERY.

"The Mount, Sheffield, Nov. 18th, 1832."

Nov. ■ *Holland*: "This has been ■ of the ■ remarkable years of your ■ since the period of boyhood, inasmuch as you have not, so ■ as I ■ aware,

ated by a small party to introduce "works of fiction," contrary to a fundamental ■ of ■ library. It may be mentioned ■ in ■ month of February, Montgomery officially signed a petition to the House of Commons, praying that the Mechanics' Library might receive ■ printed Parliamentary ■ George ■ field, Esq., one of the members of the borough, on reporting the discharge of his duty, said, "Though it is not allowed to read such petition, or give much explanation of its contents, I took care to mention the name of the president, which ■ my ■ ever be honoured."

written a single article of poetry, with the exception of the [redacted] on Doncaster Church." *Montgomery* :
 "Your remark would have been literally correct, previous [redacted] this week; for I have just composed three verses for a person who, being about to publish a Tune Book, pressed me [redacted] give [redacted] words for a particular air. If you will [redacted] your pen and write, I will endeavour [redacted] dictate :—

- " [redacted] image [redacted] Creation,
 [redacted] bore from the beginning,
 [redacted] yielding [redacted] temptation,
 His birth-right lost by sinning,
 God's Son, in human fashion,
 Our penalty sustain'd.
 And, by His Cross [redacted] Passion,
 Lost Paradise regain'd.
- " Now [redacted] the humble-hearted,
 O'er sin and death victorious,
 [redacted] glory, long departed,
 Comes down from heaven more glorious :
 What homage shall [redacted] tender'd
 By this enfranchised earth ?
 All hearts, all souls, surrender'd
 To God, for man's new birth.
- " That birth, a germ immortal,
 Of endless life beginning,
 Must pass through death's dark portal,
 Beyond the reach of sinning.
 No tempter — no temptation,
 To fear a second fall ;
 But bliss in consummation,
 [redacted] God is All in All ! "

CHAP. CXI.

INDEMNITY OF THE NEW YEAR. — LANCER AND WILKESBOROUGH. —
 WANTON ACT OF [REDACTED] AT SUN MOUNT. — MONTGOMERY'S
 LAST HYMN. — VISIT TO ANTON. — LAST WEEK OF THE POET'S
 LIFE. — MR. HOLLAND'S PARTING INTERVIEW WITH [REDACTED]. —
 PARTICULARS OF HIS DEATH. — PREPARATIONS FOR PUBLIC FUNERAL. —
 LOCAL DEMONSTRATIONS OF RESPECT. — ORDER OF PROCESSION. —
 INTERMENT IN THE CEMETERY. — LAST WILL. — PROPERTY. — SALE
 OF LIBRARY. — MODEL OF PROPOSED MONUMENT.

A [REDACTED] storm, such [REDACTED] for its [REDACTED] and severity had
 [REDACTED] been experienced during the preceding eighteen
 years, prevailed throughout, and, indeed, far beyond
 the British islands, [REDACTED] the beginning of 1854, carrying
 off [REDACTED] considerable number of elderly people, especially
 those of delicate constitutions. As Montgomery be-
 longed decidedly [REDACTED] the latter class, [REDACTED] he persisted,
 for [REDACTED] time, in braving the cold by his daily walks [REDACTED] and
 from the town, many persons who felt anxious about
 [REDACTED] safety began [REDACTED] habitually to caution him against
 venturing out, that, [REDACTED] length, he wisely resolved [REDACTED]
 keep within doors, till the inclemency of the weather
 mitigated. By this [REDACTED] he escaped what [REDACTED] at
 least, an obvious danger; and, in due time, resumed [REDACTED]
 out-door movements, with something [REDACTED] [REDACTED] accustomed
 health and spirits.

In February, he sat a couple of hours [REDACTED] [REDACTED] artist,
 to enable [REDACTED] [REDACTED] finish [REDACTED] [REDACTED] mentioned [REDACTED] [REDACTED] pre-
 ceding year: aware [REDACTED] [REDACTED] modeller [REDACTED] [REDACTED] staunch

phrenologist, Mr. Holland told him, that the poet was gone, what he thought of his head? The reply was, that the anterior and upper regions of the cranium were finely developed; but there was a remarkable deficiency of volume in the region of "firmness," and of others adjacent to it; while those on the part of the head behind were still less pronounced. This diagnosis certainly agreed well enough with the actual character of the man. During the sitting, Mr. Holland read a spirited article in the current number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, relative to some strictures by Lord John Russell, in a review of "Moore's Memoirs" in the *Quarterly*. Montgomery was very much entertained with the subject: stopping the reader more than once, to ask whether the book was the old "Gentleman's Magazine," which he used to look into, many years ago, for articles of a very different kind?

He was, however, more interested, while listening to a few passages from Landor's book — "The Last Fruit off an Old Tree," — especially the imaginary conversation between Nicholas and Nesselrode: in reply to a remark, which implied the superiority of the Greek Church, corrupt as it is, to the best form of Mohammedism, he said, "Yes; I hear what you say; it may be very true that the followers of the prophet are about to be driven out of Europe; but as the question now present stands between the main parties in the dispute, I must confess I am more of a Turk than a Russian." Holland: "Did you ever meet Landor in company?" Montgomery: "When I delivered my lectures in Bath several years ago, among the persons who gathered about me on the conclusion, were two or three questions on a point — I was afterwards told it was Walter Savage Landor: I must read that book." Some allusion having been made to cases which striking

reverses of fortune had been experienced by good [redacted] occasionally through the [redacted] of those [redacted] and dear [redacted] them, the [redacted] of Wilberforce [redacted] mentioned. Montgomery said he [redacted] [redacted] him both in prosperity and adversity, and in each [redacted] alike he appeared the exemplary Christian. When in London, [redacted] time before 1832, he had partaken of the elegant hospitalities of Highwood House: the [redacted] time he saw Wilberforce [redacted] a breakfast [redacted] Lord Calthorpe's, when he [redacted] much [redacted] by a remark of the venerable senator, to the effect that he could not now invite the poet [redacted] [redacted] house, as he [redacted] [redacted] longer the master of one, but [redacted] living with his sons; the loss of his library being apparently [redacted] regretted by him. *Holland*: "The incidents of that desperate and costly electioneering struggle in which he [redacted] involved more than thirty years ago, [redacted] remembered rather like the pageantry of a dream, than [redacted] stirring—I dare not say *sober*—realities enacted, to no small extent, even in this town." *Montgomery*: "The return of Wilberforce to represent the county of York in Parliament, at a time when the [redacted] great Houses of Wentworth and Harewood [redacted] contesting the palm, [redacted] the highest compliment which could possibly have been paid [redacted] him, and [redacted] [redacted] honourable [redacted] the county itself, which, doubtless, in this act, recognised the value of his Christian character. While [redacted] heirs of the [redacted] noble peers [redacted] reputed [redacted] have spent not less than 100,000*l.* each in that contest, the expenses of [redacted] Wilberforce are [redacted] [redacted] have [redacted] ceded 40,000*l.*"

[redacted] *Montgomery*: "Have you heard what [redacted] happened [redacted] the Mount?" *Holland*: "Not a robbery, I hope?" *Montgomery*: "Worse than that—[redacted] evil-disposed person, in the [redacted] of the night, [redacted] [redacted] only pulled [redacted] several rose-trees, and done

other mischief ■ our lawn, but has entirely destroyed the Purple Drank which I planted there, and which ■■ beginning ■ look ■ handsome. Our neighbours are exceedingly grieved, and ■■ I; ■■ can I ■■ ceive how I should personally have become the object of such a wanton and malicious outrage." *Holland*: "I lament the destruction of the ■■ ■■ much ■■ any one; but I ■■ anxious ■■ believe that ■■ ■■ not the object of the evil-doer, who, however, must, one would think, have had some motive." *Montgomery*: "To be ■■ he had: Satan himself does ■■ ■■ without ■■ I can only imagine it may have been ■■ beggar who has been sent away unserved from the door—a most unusual thing, indeed." The mischief being irreparable ■■ ■■ the original tree, all that could be done was, to get the poet quietly to plant another, of the ■■ species, on the ■■ spot: but that only flourished awhile, then faded and died!

In April he composed two hymns: ■■ of them—the last production, ■■ it proved, of his fertile pen, being dated only the day before he died: it ■■ written ■■ the request of the Rev. W. Mercer, ■■ suit ■■ particular air; the other ■■ for the ■■ Sunday School Union, and the composition of it was ■■ task to which he ■■ also reluctantly won by the solicitude of the teachers, who were anxious ■■ sing words adapted ■■ ■■ said ■■ have been composed by Prince Albert.

Aware that Montgomery's "Original Hymns" would be reprinted in the United States, and anxious that a ■■ and accredited version should get into circulation, the pre- ■■ writer transmitted a copy ■■ ■■ friend in New York, who ■■ afterwards ■■ the author ■■ handsome and ■■ reprint, with an "Introduction by John Holland," the principal feature of ■■ ■■ a disquisition on the

right and practice of "Altering Hymns." All this the poet knew nothing, the book was placed in the hands of the editor, who was gratified to hear his friend express himself as pleased equally with "the judicious tenor and the kindly tone of the Introduction."

Easter, we have seen, was a high festival among the Moravians, and the poet had been invited to visit Fulneck that year; indeed, he had promised his friends to do so. Instead of doing so, however, he visited his beloved niece, Mrs. Mallalieu, who says:—

"My dear uncle frequently spent part of the Passion Week at Ockbrook Fulneck. I heard from him very early in April; and his last letter to me was on the 12th, not more than a fortnight before he left earth for heaven. I was looking at his letter that night, and helped transcribing a letter from it. He says:—

"To-morrow, I have been free from business otherwise personal, I should have, indeed, been happy to have made a campaign of my childhood, my days of youth: to live latter again; especially to spend another *Massey Thursday*, which then (I may frankly say it) to me the happiest day in the year: evening reading in the chapel, of Saviour's agony and bloody sweat, in the Garden of Gethsemane, was always a source of holy humbling and affecting sympathy of soul with His, who then was made *presence felt*. And on Good Friday, Great Sabbath, and Sunday, each had its peculiar visits in spirit, of remembrance and consoling; and yet, after so many years of estrangement and unfaithfulness on my part, since I chose my portion for myself in the world, rather than my father's house among my Christian brethren, I can say,—*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, forget not all his benefits!"*—hoping, praying, earnestly desiring I may yet see the context—(Ps. ciii. 3, 4.) *"Who forgiveth all iniquities; who all*

thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction, & crowneth thee with loving-kindness & tender mercies." Then he adds, with his own warmth of affection, 'Now my dear, dear Harriet, may you and your children, and your friends of mothers, ever, be united in thanksgivings daily to the end.'

"I do value your letter, written so shortly before the close of the year coming round again [Easter, 1855], too, the last year dwell much in my mind; so fondly my dear mother I hoped to see you uncle here; now they have joined the Church Triumphant!"

This, if not the last letter he wrote, is the last we have to cite; and surely it exhibits the aged pious writer in that spirit which is suitable to his whole Christian character, and may we not add — with which every reader of his volumes, if like-minded, will wish to close the perusal of his correspondence?

Many of the letters which he received in this period, if not of a business character, remained unanswered; his friendly correspondents sometimes wondering whether his silence proceeded from displacency or anything they had written. We recollect this especially the case with two individuals, neither of whom would the poet willingly have grieved by his apparent neglect: — we allude to Mr. Shoberl and Mr. Mogridge*, both of whom we know were anxious to have had a letter from him ere they closed their lives, the one a little before, the other shortly after himself.

He had latterly complained a good deal only of his life-long complaint — the penalty of student toil in general, dyspepsia — but had no other unpleasant symptoms of internal disorder which troubled him.

* "Old Humphrey," as he called himself in his various publications. His letter to Montgomery is printed in a memoir of the writer, 1855.

■ ■ advice of his usual medical attendant, Mr. Favell, whose treatment afforded immediate relief. So ■ ■ ■ the case, ■ ■ he ■ ■ only attended ■ ■ Tuesday, April 25, ■ meeting of the gas company, ■ which he ■ ■ (unhappily for ■ ■ peace ■ ■ comfort during the ■ ■ ■ conflicts) chairman*, but was ■ ■ the fast-day services at St. George's Church (his usual place of worship) ■ ■ the Wednesday forenoon following. We know, too, how fervently while there he entered into that portion of the special prayers which invoked the blessing of peace; for those persons who either knew the poet personally, ■ ■ who may have read these memoirs, will remember the penalty which he constantly paid with ■ large class of the community ■ the opponent of war ■ ■ a system of political craft. Nothing, indeed, pained him ■ ■ much ■ ■ the commencement of those hostilities with Russia, which are ■ ■ ■ happily ended, as the personal part which ■ ■ beloved Queen ■ ■ induced to take in witnessing and encouraging the departure of thousands and ■ ■ of thousands of her subjects on ■ ■ enterprise of strife, battle, and bloodshed: and yet, it ■ ■ ■ he added, ■ ■ ■ distinctly, that he ■ ■ ■ in this quarrel entirely with the government and people of England against the duplicity and aggressive designs of the autocrat. On Friday he attended ■ ■ usual ■ ■ the weekly board meeting of the Infirmary, of which for many years ■ ■ had been chairman.

■ ■ the afternoon of Saturday, April 29th, Mont-

* Of course, the object of the directors in urging this personal appearance among them was to avail themselves of the benefit of Montgomery's character as well as of his judgment; ■ ■ ■ his name was promptly and effectually used to repel an insinuation thrown out against the respectability of the Old Gas Company, during a subsequent argument in the Court of Chancery.

upon Mr. [redacted] in the [redacted] Hall, and [redacted] reply [redacted] inquiry about his health, placed [redacted] hand [redacted] his breast, [redacted] said, "I [redacted] considerable oppression *here*, [redacted] well [redacted] uneasiness [redacted] my stomach." After [redacted] while, however, he became, [redacted] usual, more cheerful; and, in allusion to [redacted] remark of [redacted] friend relative [redacted] interruption of trade with Russia, and the possible re-appearance of those [redacted] government advertisements of "Bounties on the Growth of Hemp and Flax," which occupied the newspapers during the previous war, he said pleasantly, "The price of those advertisements [redacted] the only ministerial patronage [redacted] extended to the 'Iris.'" The conversation then turned upon the religious services of the preceding Wednesday: after which the two friends parted [redacted] usual.

About noon the day following, Mr. Holland received [redacted] [redacted] go to the Mount: Montgomery [redacted] dead! On reaching the house, [redacted] having looked [redacted] the still placid but exanimate countenance of his departed friend, he sought from [redacted] Gales the particulars of an event—mournful, indeed, to her. She said he came home, apparently [redacted] usual, the day before; but in [redacted] evening, although he did not complain, he appeared fidgetty; and at family-worship somewhat [redacted] prised her by handing to her the Bible, with the remark, "Sarah, you must read!" she did so; he then knelt down, and prayed with [redacted] peculiar pathos and tremor of voice which excited attention but led to [redacted] remark, [redacted] he afterwards conversed while smoking [redacted] pipe, as was his custom before retiring [redacted] rest. Nothing was heard of him during the night; and about eight o'clock [redacted] the morning [redacted] of [redacted] [redacted] knocked [redacted] [redacted] chamber door, but receiving no [redacted] [redacted] opened it, and looking [redacted] saw her master on the floor. On obtaining [redacted] and helping him into

bed, he presently recovered consciousness, and said he believed he had been some hours on the floor, and apprehended he was the subject of an attack of paralysis. Mr. Favell was immediately summoned; he, on being once, declared there were no symptoms of paralysis, and stayed till his patient had rallied, apparently in every respect, that he left him with the confidence of prompt restoration: and so far this augury appear justified that he had a little dinner, and conversed with Miss Gales as usual. Mr. Favell saw him again at noon, when he appeared not only better, but cheerful; assenting to the advice to forbear attendance at any meeting which was likely to be of an exciting character, and some of those in which he had latterly felt it his duty to be present had — unhappily for him! — too often been. About half-past three in the afternoon, while Miss Gales was sitting by his bedside, and watching him apparently asleep, she noticed a sudden but slight alteration in his features. In a few minutes the spirit fled; and the clay, placid and beautiful even in its inanimation, was all that remained on earth of one who had previously filled a large space in the living sympathy of his fellow-creatures. At such a moment it was impossible to recal and apply the sentiment of the poet—

“Behold the bed of death;
This pale and lovely clay;
Heard ye the sob of parting breath?
Mark ye the eye’s last ray?
—Life so sweetly ceased to be,
It lapsed in immortality.”

It was a gratifying expression of respect for the social virtues, as well as for the literary character of the deceased, that as soon as the windows of his

own residence being lowered the example followed in every other house on the Mount, each family had sustained a personal bereavement. This circumstance, and solemn tolling for an hour of the great of the parish church, presently diffused the mournful tidings that the indeed lost its distinguished inhabitant.

Whenever Mr. Holland looked the countenance of the poet — so little altered in death, — a sentiment always recalled in reference the deceased, in which he had himself indulged when describing the preparations for the interment of the Princess Charlotte, thirty-six years before: — “Between the living and the unburied dead, there is a mysterious *sanguinity*, which on contemplating the last spectacle of mortality excites in the former a strange and in sympathy, as if the deceased and not the survivors were the sufferers. While the frame, undissolved, yet retains its perfect organisation, and nothing is wanting to make the corpse amongst ourselves before, but that inexplicable principle called life, which no eye distinguish except in its efforts, and no mind can comprehend, except in the affirmative or negative, of ‘*it is*,’ and ‘*it is not* ;’ while this alone is wanting, the soul cleaves with its intensest affections the image in view, and will not let it go, and believe it all dead, the coffin closes, and the sepulchre sealed.”

Amidst the many confidential conversations which had passed between the poet and his intimate friend during so many later years, the subject of his *burial place* to by either party, probably from a mutual recognition of the various unforeseen circumstances might determine selection. And so the proved; for while up

period of Montgomery's death, Miss Gales, and in-
his immediate relatives, had looked to the quiet
churchyard of Eckington as final resting
place, the of departure immediately
the universal expression of a desire among
poet's townspeople, not only to honour him with a
public funeral, but also to to Sheffield, where
long lived and laboured, the distinction his
grave.

A committee having been formed, comprising the
Mayor, the Vicar (with whom the movement originated),
the Cutler, the Town Regent, the Capital
Church Burgess, the Rev. S. D. Waddy, Messrs. T.
W. Rodgers, and S. Mitchell, with Messrs. R. Young
and G. Ridge, as secretaries, inviting the public
join in this demonstration of respect, they immediately
conferred with the relatives of the deceased. The
directors of the cemetery waited upon the family and
very handsomely offered any spot in their ground that
might be preferred the last resting-place of the
departed poet; after which the funeral committee vi-
sited the ground and made choice of a beautiful site
near the end of the church, and of course, in
the *conservated* portion of the ground. The funeral
took place the 11th of May, amidst such demon-
strations of respect as were paid any individual
in before. The shops generally closed.
Manufactories and other places of business de-
serted. The houses showed signs of mourning. Along
the of procession, the house tops and windows,
and the of the streets, were with respectful
spectators. Great numbers of people were upon the
parish St. Paul's churches, in the churchyards,
and every elevation commanded a view of

following the order of procession, and of proceedings at the place of interment:—

Police.

Two H.

Deputations Committees Managers of
of England Instruction Society; Me-
Library; Athenæum; the Lyceum; Hill Schools; Sunday School Union; Lancasterian Schools; People's College; Government School of Design; Rotherham College; Library; Literary Philosophical Society.

Gentlemen of Town Neighbourhood, in Carriages;
Managers of the Savings' ;

Committee and Medical Officers of the Public
Dispensary ;

Managers of the Aged Female Society ;
Directors of the United Gas-Light Company ;

of Guardians for ;

The Weekly and Medical of the
General Infirmary ;

The Police Commissioners ;

The Eccleall Highway Board ;

Board of Highways for the Township of Sheffield ;
Dissenting Ministers ;

Wesleyan Ministers ;

The Church Burgesses ;

The Town Regent, and Trustees ;

The Master Cutler (W. A. Matthews, Esq.), Company ;
Bishop and Ministers of the Church of the United

Brethren ;

The Vicar of Sheffield and twenty-four of the Clergy ;

of the Riding Yeomanry ;

Coroner and Deputy Coroner for District ;

The Magistrates for the Porough ;

The Magistrates for the West Riding ; Clerk to the
Magistrates ;

The Judge and Treasurer of the County Court ;

Mayor, (Francis Hoole, Esq., _____ by Mr. Raynor,
_____ Constable.) _____ Corporation;

G. Hudfield, Esq., **ILF** for Sheffield;

The Funeral Committee.

William Favell Esq., Surgeon ■ ■ Deceased :

Gould, Esq., Solicitor   **Deceased:**

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

READERS

Rev. H. Farish.




Rev. _____

Rev. Jas. Methley. **THE BODY.** Rev. D. Waddy.

Rev. C. Larom. a horse drawn Rev. J. H. [redacted]

Roberts, Esq. by six horses. **Samuel Bailey, Esq.**

Four Mourning Coaches:

In   coach, Robert Montgomery, of Woolwich, brother of the deceased; the Rev. John James Montgomery,  Gales, and Mrs. Foster, niece of the deceased.

Second coach, Mrs. Mallalieu, niece of the deceased; Mrs. John James Montgomery, John Holland, the Rev. W. Mercer.

Third and fourth coaches, the Bearers. Coach drawn by four horses.

Gentlemen of the Town and Neighbourhood ■ foot.

Deputation of the Montgomery Society.

Deputation of Scripture Readers.

of Wesley College.

**Twenty Gownsmen and one hundred of the Scholars of
Wesley College.**

Pupils of Dr. Munro's School.

**Gentlemen of the Town and Neighbourhood on horseback.
Mounted Police.**

About an hour elapsed from the arrival of the first part of the procession at the gates before the hearse, with its attendants, reached the consecrated enclosure, where the coffin was taken out of the hearse, and the pall-bearers assumed their places; the vicar in his gown, the Rev. George Sandford in surplice, preceding the solemn cortege up the avenue, and through the winding roads of the cemetery. The ladies had been arranged to enter the cemetery ground at an early hour in the forenoon, and they formed

principal occupants the funeral entered. But crowds of spectators to all adjacent points commanding a view of ground; the hill-side, the valley, hundreds of observers. When the procession entered, the gates were opened to the public, a dense assemblage quickly filled ground. Anticipating the multitude of persons who would present, the difficulty and inconvenience of entering and leaving a small church, a temporary desk catafalque had erected the grave; the favourable of weather permitting the of the burial service be performed in the open air. The Rev. T. Sale, M.A., the vicar, and the Rev. G. Sandford, M.A., the chaplain of cemetery, officiating. At its conclusion, the vicar "Having committed the body of our dear brother to the grave in the full belief of his triumphant resurrection, let us sing over his grave one of those hymns which in past days composed for one gone before him":—

'Go to the grave; though like a fallen tree,
At with verdure, flowers, and fruitage crown'd,
Thy form may perish, and thine honours be
Lost in the mouldering bosom of the ground;—

'Go the grave, which, faithful to its trust,
The germ of immortality shall keep;
While safe, watch'd by cherubim, thy dust
Shall, till the Judgment-day, in Jesus sleep.

'Go the grave, for there thy Saviour lay
In Death's embraces, high;
And all the ransom'd, by way,
Pass eternal life beyond the sky.

'Go the grave;—no, take thy above;
thy pure spirit present with the LORD,
Where thou, for hope, perfect love,
And open vision for written Word.' "

Dr. Owen, secretary of the Bible Society, who died 1822.

The choir of the parish church, aided by the children of the Boys' [redacted] Charity Schools, who [redacted] formed part of the procession, but appeared [redacted] the grave, [redacted] very sweetly, [redacted] there [redacted] the volume [redacted] sound which would doubtless have [redacted] poured forth had the hymn been one better adapted to be sung to some well known tune.

After the retirement of the mourners, hundreds of persons crowded round the grave to take a farewell look at [redacted] coffin, which was of plain oak, very strong and French polished, [redacted] a silvered plate bearing [redacted] following inscription :—

JAMES MONTGOMERY,

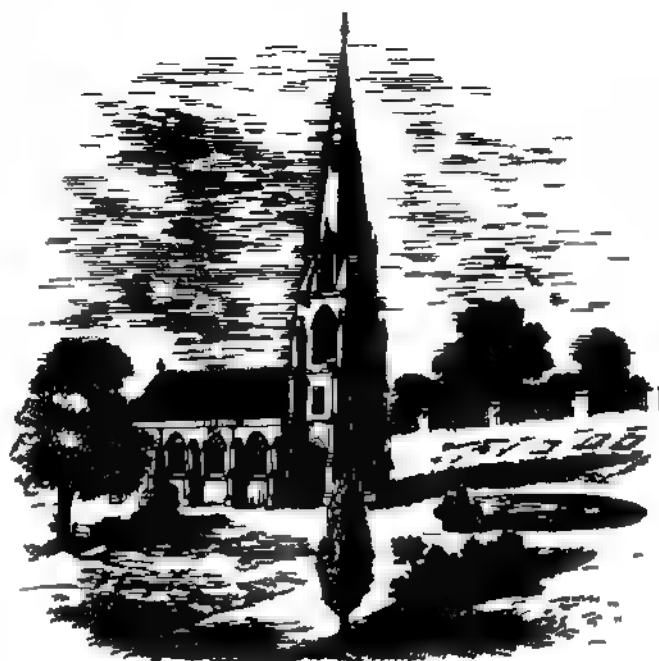
Died April the 30th, 1864,

In the 88rd year of his Age.

[redacted] situation of [redacted] in relation to the church, [redacted] indicated in [redacted] annexed cut: it occupies the [redacted] of the circular space near the tower end of the building.

Up [redacted] this period no will [redacted] been found, and the anxiety of those who [redacted] assumed [redacted] be directly interested in the disposal of the poet's property was increased by the discovery that the document, under which [redacted] had designed that Mr. Holland should administer [redacted] affairs, was incomplete; the solicitor, [redacted] the [redacted] time, giving it [redacted] [redacted] opinion that no other existed. Farther search, however, [redacted] rewarded, or disappointed, by the finding of the following will, dated, [redacted] will be seen, nearly thirty years back:—

I, JAMES MONTGOMERY, of Sheffield, in [redacted] county of York, gentleman, [redacted] hereby revoke all former wills, codicils, [redacted] testamentary dispositions by [redacted] any time heretofore made, [redacted] do declare this to be my last will [redacted] [redacted] I give and bequeath to [redacted] minister for [redacted] [redacted]



being ^a of Fulneck, ^b Leeds, ^c the ^d county of York, and the Superintendent of ^e boarding-schools for boys and girls there, children of members of the Church of ^f United Brethren, commonly called Moravian Brethren, ^g sum ^h three hundred pounds. I give ⁱ bequeath ^j ^k ^l of the missions of the ^m United Brethren, commonly ⁿ Moravian Brethren, ^o ^p heathen, ^q sum of three hundred pounds. I give ^r bequeath to ^s ^t ^u treasurers ^v of ^w Charity ^x for poor

^a ^b ^c ^d ^e ^f ^g ^h ⁱ ^j ^k ^l ^m ⁿ ^o ^p ^q ^r ^s ^t ^u ^v ^w ^x ^y ^z ^{aa} ^{ab} ^{ac} ^{ad} ^{ae} ^{af} ^{ag} ^{ah} ^{ai} ^{aj} ^{ak} ^{al} ^{am} ^{an} ^{ao} ^{ap} ^{aq} ^{ar} ^{as} ^{at} ^{au} ^{av} ^{aw} ^{ax} ^{ay} ^{az} ^{ba} ^{bb} ^{bc} ^{bd} ^{be} ^{bf} ^{bg} ^{bh} ^{bi} ^{bj} ^{bk} ^{bl} ^{bm} ^{bn} ^{bo} ^{bp} ^{bq} ^{br} ^{bs} ^{bt} ^{bu} ^{bv} ^{bw} ^{bx} ^{by} ^{bz} ^{ca} ^{cb} ^{cc} ^{cd} ^{ce} ^{cf} ^{cg} ^{ch} ^{ci} ^{cj} ^{ck} ^{cl} ^{cm} ^{cn} ^{co} ^{cp} ^{cq} ^{cr} ^{cs} ^{ct} ^{cu} ^{cv} ^{cw} ^{cx} ^{cy} ^{cz} ^{da} ^{db} ^{dc} ^{dd} ^{de} ^{df} ^{dg} ^{dh} ^{di} ^{dj} ^{dk} ^{dl} ^{dm} ^{dn} ^{do} ^{dp} ^{dq} ^{dr} ^{ds} ^{dt} ^{du} ^{dv} ^{dw} ^{dx} ^{dy} ^{dz} ^{ea} ^{eb} ^{ec} ^{ed} ^{ee} ^{ef} ^{eg} ^{eh} ^{ei} ^{ej} ^{ek} ^{el} ^{em} ^{en} ^{eo} ^{ep} ^{eq} ^{er} ^{es} ^{et} ^{eu} ^{ev} ^{ew} ^{ex} ^{ey} ^{ez} ^{fa} ^{fb} ^{fc} ^{fd} ^{fe} ^{ff} ^{fg} ^{fh} ^{fi} ^{fj} ^{fk} ^{fl} ^{fm} ^{fn} ^{fo} ^{fp} ^{fq} ^{fr} ^{fs} ^{ft} ^{fu} ^{fv} ^{fw} ^{fx} ^{fy} ^{fz} ^{ga} ^{gb} ^{gc} ^{gd} ^{ge} ^{gf} ^{gg} ^{gh} ^{gi} ^{gj} ^{gk} ^{gl} ^{gm} ^{gn} ^{go} ^{gp} ^{gq} ^{gr} ^{gs} ^{gt} ^{gu} ^{gv} ^{gw} ^{gx} ^{gy} ^{gz} ^{ha} ^{hb} ^{hc} ^{hd} ^{he} ^{hf} ^{hg} ^{hh} ^{hi} ^{hj} ^{hk} ^{hl} ^{hm} ^{hn} ^{ho} ^{hp} ^{hq} ^{hr} ^{hs} ^{ht} ^{hu} ^{hv} ^{hw} ^{hx} ^{hy} ^{hz} ^{ia} ^{ib} ^{ic} ^{id} ^{ie} ^{if} ^{ig} ^{ih} ⁱⁱ ^{ij} ^{ik} ^{il} ^{im} ⁱⁿ ^{io} ^{ip} ^{iq} ^{ir} ^{is} ^{it} ^{iu} ^{iv} ^{iw} ^{ix} ^{iy} ^{iz} ^{ja} ^{jb} ^{jc} ^{jd} ^{je} ^{jf} ^{jj} ^{jk} ^{jl} ^{jm} ^{jn} ^{jo} ^{jp} ^{jq} ^{jr} ^{js} ^{jt} ^{ju} ^{jv} ^{jw} ^{jx} ^{ja} ^{jb} ^{jc} ^{jd} ^{je} ^{jf} ^{jj} ^{jk} ^{jl} ^{jm} ^{jn} ^{jo} ^{jp} ^{jq} ^{jr} ^{js} ^{jt} ^{ju} ^{jv} ^{jw} ^{jx} ^{ka} ^{kb} ^{kc} ^{kd} ^{ke} ^{kf} ^{kg} ^{kh} ^{ki} ^{kj} ^{kl} ^{km} ^{kn} ^{ko} ^{kp} ^{kq} ^{kr} ^{ks} ^{kt} ^{ku} ^{kv} ^{kw} ^{kx} ^{ky} ^{kz} ^{la} ^{lb} ^{lc} ^{ld} ^{le} ^{lf} ^{lg} ^{lh} ^{li} ^{lj} ^{lk} ^{ll} ^{lm} ^{ln} ^{lo} ^{lp} ^{lq} ^{lr} ^{ls} ^{lt} ^{lu} ^{lv} ^{lw} ^{lx} ^{ly} ^{lz} ^{ma} ^{mb} ^{mc} ^{md} ^{me} ^{mf} ^{mg} ^{mh} ^{mi} ^{mj} ^{mk} ^{ml} ^{mm} ^{mn} ^{mo} ^{mp} ^{mq} ^{mr} ^{ms} ^{mt} ^{mu} ^{mv} ^{mw} ^{mx} ^{my} ^{mz} ^{na} ^{nb} ^{nc} nd ^{ne} ^{nf} ^{ng} ^{nh} ⁿⁱ ^{nj} ^{nk} ^{nl} ^{nm} ⁿⁿ ^{no} ^{np} ^{nq} ^{nr} ^{ns} ^{nt} ^{nu} ^{nv} ^{nw} ^{nx} ^{ny} ^{nz} ^{oa} ^{ob} ^{oc} ^{od} ^{oe} ^{of} ^{og} ^{oh} ^{oi} ^{oj} ^{ok} ^{ol} ^{om} ^{on} ^{oo} ^{op} ^{oq} ^{or} ^{os} ^{ot} ^{ou} ^{ov} ^{ow} ^{ox} ^{oy} ^{oz} ^{pa} ^{pb} ^{pc} ^{pd} ^{pe} ^{pf} ^{pg} ^{ph} ^{pi} ^{pj} ^{pk} ^{pl} ^{pm} ^{pn} ^{po} ^{pp} ^{pq} ^{pr} ^{ps} ^{pt} ^{pu} ^{pv} ^{pw} ^{px} ^{py} ^{pz} ^{qa} ^{qb} ^{qc} ^{qd} ^{qe} ^{qf} ^{qg} ^{qh} ^{qi} ^{qj} ^{qk} ^{ql} ^{qm} ^{qn} ^{qo} ^{qp} ^{qq} ^{qr} ^{qs} ^{qt} ^{qu} ^{qv} ^{qw} ^{qx} ^{qy} ^{qz} ^{ra} ^{rb} ^{rc} rd ^{re} ^{rf} ^{rg} ^{rh} ^{ri} ^{rj} ^{rk} ^{rl} ^{rm} ^{rn} ^{ro} ^{rp} ^{rq} ^{rr} ^{rs} ^{rt} ^{ru} ^{rv} ^{rw} ^{rx} ^{ry} ^{rz} ^{sa} ^{sb} ^{sc} ^{sd} ^{se} ^{sf} ^{sg} ^{sh} ^{si} ^{sj} ^{sk} ^{sl} sm ^{sn} ^{so} ^{sp} ^{sq} ^{sr} ^{ss} st ^{su} ^{sv} ^{sw} ^{sx} ^{sy} ^{sz} ^{ta} ^{tb} ^{tc} ^{td} ^{te} ^{tf} ^{tg} th ^{ti} ^{tj} ^{tk} ^{tl} tm ^{tn} ^{to} ^{tp} ^{tq} ^{tr} ^{ts} ^{tu} ^{tv} ^{tw} ^{tx} ^{ty} ^{tz} ^{ua} ^{ub} ^{uc} ^{ud} ^{ue} ^{uf} ^{ug} ^{uh} ^{ui} ^{uj} ^{uk} ^{ul} ^{um} ^{un} ^{uo} ^{up} ^{uq} ^{ur} ^{us} ^{ut} ^{uu} ^{uv} ^{uw} ^{ux} ^{uy} ^{uz} ^{va} ^{vb} ^{vc} ^{vd} ^{ve} ^{vf} ^{vg} ^{vh} ^{vi} ^{vj} ^{vk} ^{vl} ^{vm} ^{vn} ^{vo} ^{vp} ^{vq} ^{vr} ^{vs} ^{vt} ^{vu} ^{vv} ^{vw} ^{vx} ^{vy} ^{vz} ^{wa} ^{wb} ^{wc} ^{wd} ^{we} ^{wf} ^{wg} ^{wh} ^{wi} ^{wj} ^{wk} ^{wl} ^{wm} ^{wn} ^{wo} ^{wp} ^{wq} ^{wr} ^{ws} ^{wt} ^{wu} ^{wv} ^{ww} ^{wx} ^{wy} ^{wz} ^{xa} ^{xb} ^{xc} ^{xd} ^{xe} ^{xf} ^{xg} ^{xh} ^{xi} ^{xj} ^{xk} ^{xl} ^{xm} ^{xn} ^{xo} ^{xp} ^{xq} ^{xr} ^{xs} ^{xt} ^{xu} ^{xv} ^{xw} ^{xx} ^{xy} ^{xz} ^{ya} ^{yb} ^{yc} ^{yd} ^{ye} ^{yf} ^{yg} ^{yh} ^{yi} ^{yj} ^{yk} ^{yl} ^{ym} ^{yn} ^{yo} ^{yp} ^{yq} ^{yr} ^{ys} ^{yt} ^{yu} ^{yv} ^{yw} ^{yx} ^{yy} ^{yz} ^{za} ^{zb} ^{zc} ^{zd} ^{ze} ^{zf} ^{zg} ^{zh} ^{zi} ^{zj} ^{zk} ^{zl} ^{zm} ^{zn} ^{zo} ^{zp} ^{zq} ^{zr} ^{zs} ^{zt} ^{zu} ^{zv} ^{zw} ^{zx} ^{zy} ^{zz}

† Ibid.

boys in [redacted] the sum of fifty pounds; to the treasurer of the Charity School for [redacted] girls in Sheffield, the sum of fifty pounds; to [redacted] treasurer of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor in Sheffield, fifty pounds; to the [redacted] of the Society for the Relief of aged [redacted] in Sheffield, fifty pounds; to the [redacted] of [redacted] Lancasterian [redacted] boys in Sheffield, twenty-five pounds; to [redacted] treasurer of the Lancasterian School for girls [redacted] Sheffield, twenty-five pounds; to [redacted] the [redacted] of [redacted] National School for boys and girls [redacted] Sheffield, fifty pounds. And I direct the [redacted] several legacies to be paid to the said minister, superintendent, and [redacted] respectively, on [redacted] of twelve calendar [redacted] next after my decease, [redacted] by them respectively, at their discretion, applied [redacted] charitable purposes of the said institutions respectively; and the [redacted] several legacies shall be paid out of my personal estate, and not from any of my chattels real, or mortgages secured on real estate. Also I give [redacted] bequeath [redacted] my niece Elizabeth Caroline Foster, daughter of my brother [redacted] Montgomery, of Woolwich, the [redacted] of two hundred pounds; to my niece [redacted] Montgomery*, also daughter of my said brother Robert Montgomery, the sum of two hundred pounds; to my nephew John James Montgomery, of Fulneck aforesaid, son of my brother, the Rev. Ignatius Montgomery, of Ockbrook, in the county of Derby, two hundred pounds; to my niece [redacted] Montgomery†, daughter of my said brother Ignatius Montgomery, two hundred pounds; to my friend John Holland, of Sheffield, author of " [redacted] Park," and other poems, the [redacted] of [redacted] hundred pounds‡; to Sarah Gales, formerly of Eckington, spinster, daughter of [redacted] late Timothy Gales§, fifty pounds; to my

* Afterwards Mrs. Luck; died before the [redacted]

† Afterwards [redacted]

‡ Instead of this legacy [redacted] inebriate will gave [redacted] the same party [redacted] copyright of [redacted] poet's works.

§ Uncle [redacted] the [redacted] [redacted] daughter [redacted] before [redacted]

friend Anne Gales, of Sheffield, spinster, four hundred pounds; to my friend Sarah Gales, of Sheffield, spinster, four hundred pounds; but neither of them should happen to die in my lifetime, I bequeath the said legacy of four hundred pounds of each of them dying unto the survivor.*

Also I give and bequeath my brother, said Ignatius Montgomery, my silver inkstand †, which was presented to me by my friends on public grounds. Also I give and bequeath said Anne (of Sheffield) all my household furniture, plate (except my silver inkstand), china, linen, to be equally divided between them, in case of death of either of them in my lifetime, then I give whole to the survivor of them; but I declare I bequest not my books, pictures, prints. ‡ Also I give my friends Ebenezer Rhodes, Nanson, Samuel Roberts, Rowland Hodgson, and George Bennet §, books, pictures, or prints, of estimated value of ten pounds each, to be selected and chosen by themselves immediately after my death. And I hereby expressly declare and direct all the aforesaid several pecuniary legacies shall be paid to the legatees free from legacy duty, — the said duty to be paid out of the residue of my personal estate hereinafter bequeathed. And I give, devise, bequeath all the residue and remainder of my goods and effects, both real and personal (subject to the payment of my just debts, funeral expenses, the charges of and attending the probate of this my will, the legacy duties before

* Gales being dead, Sarah, her surviving sister, received double legacy, instead of which, however, in the unfinished will, the sum was increased to 1000*l.*, a like amount being designed for her nephew and the two surviving nieces of the testator, respectively.

† Stolen with other property (*vide* vol. vi. p. 33.).

‡ As Gales continued to occupy the house in which Montgomery died, the executors allowed the pictures and prints to remain on the walls during her life.

§ The four gentlemen here named all died before the testator.

mentioned), unto my said brothers Robert and Ignatius Montgomery*, equally to [redacted] them, [redacted] their heirs, executors, &c.; and I devise [redacted] bequeath all the estates vested in me upon any trusts, or by way of mortgage, and which I have power to dispose of by this my will, [redacted] their appurtenances, unto the use of the said Robert and Ignatius Montgomery, their heirs, executors, &c., upon trust, to hold or dispose of the said trust estates in the manner in which they ought to be held or disposed of, pursuant to [redacted] trusts, and upon payment of the money accrued on mortgage to convey and assign the estates in mortgage to the person or persons [redacted] thereto for the time being. [redacted] I appoint [redacted] Ignatius Montgomery [redacted] of this my will; in witness whereof I, the said [redacted] Montgomery, have, to this my last will and testament, set my hand and seal, this tenth day of November, in the year of [redacted] Lord, One [redacted] eight hundred and twenty-

JAMES [redacted]

Signed, sealed, published, and declared, &c. in [redacted] presence of [redacted] who have hereto subscribed our names as witnesses.

CHAR. BROOKFIELD.

JOHN RAWSON.

WM. BROWN.

On [redacted] written very distinctly, by Montgomery himself, [redacted] memorandum:—"Till this will

* As the Rev. Ignatius Montgomery died before the execution of the will, his portion of the residuary estate passed to his surviving brother Robert, and thus also excluding [redacted] Ignatius, in contravention of the known wish of the testator. [redacted] the credit, however, of all the parties concerned, an equal [redacted] of the property between the families of the two brothers was amicably agreed upon.

shall be superseded by a future one it must be as my real will, so far as the provisions of it can be carried into execution. J. Montgomery. Thursday, March 14, 1844. The Mount, Sheffield." Besides indorsement, in ink, the margins of the instrument filled with proposed alterations in pencil, in relation to which depositions on oath were attached to the will when proved, viz. by the Rev. J. J. Montgomery, to the effect that the document was exactly in that state when he found it; the other by Mr. Brown, the surviving witness, to the effect that none of this writing was on the will when he signed it. The property was sworn as under nine thousand pounds: the parties have said, it was creditable to the parties concerned that the representatives of the two brothers of the poet, after paying the legacies to others, agreed to divide the property equally between them.

Within a month after the poet's death his library was consigned to an auctioneer for sale, a result which the writer of this paragraph would fain have averted by suggesting its presentation to the Moravian establishment at Fulneck. There is always something affecting in such a collection of books being brought under the hammer, with so many indications or expressions of literary friendship in the inscribed fly-leaves of "presentation copies;" in this case the painful feeling was heightened by what almost every volume suggested, of special service and delightful perusal in relation to their last moments.

The same feeling which prompted the signal expression of respect at the funeral embodied itself in an equally laudable desire to obtain a suitable monument,—would that we could add—with like gratifying success! John Bell, Esq., the sculptor, was employed to produce a model, which was exhibited at the

Cutlers' Hall, and obtained, as it deserved, the admiration of every person who saw it. In the model, the engraving of which forms the vignette of the volume, the figure of the poet represents him in a late period of life, and in an attitude as if about to speak; the costume being modern and individual, so as to preserve historical consistency. The four figures round the base illustrative of his character and deeds: *Piety*, *Poetry*, *Benevolence*, and *Patriotism*, with appropriate symbols. For the masonry an early style of English Ecclesiastic Architecture was chosen by the artist, as appropriate to the site of the monument and the character of the poet. The plan of the pedestal is cruciform, the grass-plot around the grave in the cemetery would slope to it, so as to afford the idea of the base being hewn out of a rock of granite which there "cropped-out." The figures are intended to be of bronze, and rather larger than life; and the masonry, the best grey Aberdeen granite, polished down to the rustication; the total height of the proposed monument being twenty-five feet.

Such a composition would be at once elegant, appropriate, and effective: complimentary to the memory of the poet, and the skill of the sculptor, as well as the liberality of the public.

CHAP. CXII.

ALTHOUGH the ample details of facts and opinions presented in these volumes—often in the very words of Montgomery himself—must have made every reader less familiar with the character of the poet, even in its minutest features, we may be allowed to add a few remarks in conclusion, of a general nature, if not in the form of a summary, yet as arising out of the finished narrative.

And in the first place let us remark that, whatever may be affirmed or denied concerning "natural genius," it is called, whether these terms are used with reference to the *quality* or the *direction* of the mental powers, of both together, it is undeniable that he, whose life we have endeavoured to portray, did from his boyhood exhibit, not only an intensely specific individuality, but, as we have elsewhere remarked, that peculiar temperament which seems, if not the necessary parent of, at least essential to, deep poetic emotion. With this element we developed the rarer characteristics of unaffected simplicity, and unsullied purity of mind—partly, we doubt, the result of early educational influences; but never, under any circumstances, tarnished or obliterated. Even when, as we have seen, the wayward youth not only wandered from the Moravian fold, but towards the perilous precincts of

religious doubt, his demeanour modest, morals unimpeachably pure.

Left to the guidance of his own fancy, rather drifting without any guide at all, the reading of unprofitable, say pernicious, books had doubtless, for a time, a mischievous effect upon him so sensitive, inquisitive and ingenuous; and he probably had in view his own experience at this critical period when, many years afterwards, in reviewing the work of a kindred spirit, he introduces a passage which strikingly illustrates the jealousy of the Christian critic in reference to the claims of religious truth, even when dealing with matters of taste. Southey says, "I have stated that (Kirke White's) opinions were, at that time, inclining towards deism: it need not be said on what slight grounds the opinions of a youth must needs be founded; while they are confined to matters of speculation they indicate, whatever their eccentricities, only an active mind; and it is only when a propensity is manifested to such principles as give a sanction to immorality that they show something wrong at heart." "We quote this passage," says Montgomery, "to protest against the plausible and insidious error at the end of it. *Such* opinions *always* indicate '*something wrong at heart*;' they show its natural deformity, and determined enmity against God. Genius, if not the child, is the nursling of pride: the youth, deeply conscious of possessing it, cherishes the 'sacred and solitary feeling' with a jealousy that tolerates no rivalry; it is the 'divinity that stirs within him,' and he worships it with a constancy and ardour of devotion that shame the lukewarmness and formality with which others worship the God. Perhaps no youth thus eminently gifted passed the age of eighteen in a Christian country who was not, at that sanguine period, when man is so confident in

his strength, because ignorant of weakness, resist and reject the evidences of the glorious gospel of Christ, exult in having discovered truths of Infidelity in the darkness of the light of nature. To such the doctrine of the only 'foolishness,' it is 'the Greek' but 'a stumbling block' also, is 'to the Jew.' It requires the sacrifice of all that most dear unregenerated man, and enjoins a humility of spirit, and a brokenness of heart, which is death that mode of ambition that exists in the carnal mind. We say that this elevated feeling must be extinguished by the grace of God, any than the other passions of nature, which sin has corrupted; but, like them, it must be renewed in the converted sinner, and, from being an insatiable appetite for self-exaltation, it must become a fervent, unquenchable zeal for the glory of God.*

Born a poet, Montgomery undoubtedly was, in every in which the Horatian dogma, *poeta nascitur*, has any meaning, accident made him a politician; and it need scarcely be added, in this character, he first became known to the public. It was, we have seen, equally accidental, that he first fell in with, and for a time adopted, sentiments so perilously liberal as those which led to Mr. Galer's flight from England in 1794, and to the fine and imprisonment of his for imputed on occasions presently afterwards. Young, inexperienced in the ways of the world, and almost a little conversant with the literature with the action of politics, it is certainly remarkable that the editor of the "Iris" should, at the outset, have maintained with much intelligence, consistency, and, cess, the than hazardous public position in which

* Eclectic Review, 1806, iv.

lot thus unexpectedly cast. With very strong opinions, with of a very doubtful benefit, with men about whose mischievous designs there often could be no doubt, the name of Montgomery was thus intimately connected, before the commencement of the present century; and the recollection of these things him many a pang in after-life. But would his character for the time, the chances of self-respect and usefulness in the future, certainly have been bettered if he had fallen on the opposite extreme—into the service of a furious Tory journalist of 1794? We think the probabilities are, on every ground, personal and relative, strongly against the affirmative presumption: we speak, of course, purely with reference to this particular case. As it was, he graduated successfully in a dangerous, but instructive, school; he had his share in the good work of intellectual, moral, religious, and political advancement by a bold, direct advocacy, as far as he concurred with others; and even when he had differed from them, the wisdom, as well as the moderation, of his dissent, or his forbearance, often effected much for the cause of his less discreet compatriots than they were always disposed to give him credit for. As a weekly commentator on current events, Montgomery was certainly, in his best days, at least equal to the best of his provincial brethren of the broad sheet,—we do not think he was equally popular: his very prudence, his love of truth, and fairness, he says nothing of the religious bias of his leading articles, forbade that. But he was at least as well informed, as instructive, and as honest, as the best of them; and if the provender which his lucubrations supplied to a class of readers so rapidly outrunning their leader, contained frequently a very fragrant admixture of the fresh flowers of polite literature, and the flowery walks of poesy, it was of the dried hay and

stubble," or, as he called it, "the chopped straw," of a politician, that fault was, I found its highest development in the daily expression of the "leading journal" of the age—to say nothing of others less respectable. Since the period here referred to, a change has taken place in newspaper literature, for the better in every respect; and it would be as absurd a challenge for any country journal, published nearly half-a-century ago, a display of ready talent that which we constantly witness with our days, as it would be to predict a return to the political divisions of parties at that period.

It is, of course, mainly with reference to his character as a poet—may I say a Christian poet—that the greater portion of the readers of this work may be presumed to feel a special interest in the personal history of Montgomery. What then, it may be asked, is the place which he is entitled to occupy among those distinguished minstrels whose living voices were heard with his own? On this point, our opinion, which must be checked by the suspicion of prejudice or partiality, is more favourable than that of the current dispensers of literary fame. To institute a formal comparison between the merits of the subject of this biography and his poetical contemporaries, would, on any part, be alike ungracious and inconclusive; but I am firmly of our conviction that, with the exception of Byron and Southey, no other deserves a rank to which the Sheffield poet is not entitled; and will such, probably, be accorded, when the prestige of certain accidental passports to immediate contemporary popularity—an advantage which we by no means undervalue—shall have ceased directly to influence the public.

One of the most thoughtful writers of the age, W. S. Landor, has said, in a leaf which has passed with "the

the fruit of an old tree," that "there are four things requisite to constitute might, majesty, and dominion, in a poet: these are, creativeness, constructiveness, the sublime, the pathetic. A poet of the first order must have formed, or taken to himself and modified, some great subject. Shakespeare was creative and constructive; he was sublime and pathetic. Cowper, and Byron, and Southey, with much deep tenderness, were richly humorous. Wordsworth, grave, elevated, observant, philosophical, is equidistant from humour and passion,—always contemplative, never creative, he delights the sedentary, and tranquillises the excited." Admitting, as we must, the four attributes above named as characterising "a poet of the first order," we dare not claim for Montgomery a title denied by the authority quoted, "to the proudest of his contemporaries." At the same time, it may perhaps be questioned whether the exhibition of those qualities is in any way favoured by certain forms of composition, those of a dramatic cast, for example, as to leave us in danger of mistaking mere darkness for depth, violence of language for real passion. Be this as it may, the author of the "World before the Flood" was as little disposed to try the tragic buskin as the comic sock; neither would have become him any more than they would have suited many of our elder and recent poets with whom he may be compared. But while it may be true that with him as surely, for example, as with Wordsworth himself, "You are beyond the danger of any turbulent emotion of terror, or valour, of magnanimity, of generosity," in the common bearing of these terms, as he said of the Sheffield, or of the Lake poet, "no one ever fell, no smile ever glanced from his pages." Evidence directly the opposite of this might easily be produced.

It is, we admit, rather **sentiment** than passion,—**fancy** than for imagination, that the better productions **Montgomery's** genius can be **to** **distinguished**: and if his claim to rank with the **distinguished** of **brethren** in the latter of these high qualities **denied**, his title to a large share of the former **be** conceded. An ingenious townsman of our poet (Mr. Fowler, author of the **of** the eccentric Charles Pemberton), in a lecture **the** writings of Montgomery, delivered in **many** years ago, was **far** from the truth when he declared that—

"**alone**, of all modern poets, is worthy to **pared** with James Montgomery in the construction of smooth and flowing **Many** of the most musical lines in the language may be found in the writings of him who has been appropriately called 'the **of** solemn **;**' for, with consummate art, he directs the gushings of fluency into modulations of exquisite harmony. Not only, however, **great** in metrical composition—a genuine poet; **has** a manly simplicity of expression that often rises into perfect strength: and a fine fancy that gives grace to every object **which** he dwells. Others may display **strokes** **imagination**, but **delights** in **pleasurable** surprise. His **sometimes** remarkable for sparkling brilliance, but more frequently for chaste beauty. Liberty and truth **with** him favourite topics; **right** gloriously does **them** up **admiration**. The love of **abounds** in all **works**, and **hatred** of oppression **often** most strongly manifested. For gentle pathos, **unsurpassed**. **speaks** **with** peculiar force: not in passionate gusts, **in** persuasive tones. Full of tenderness are **allusions** **sorrowing** humanity. Having **purified** by affliction, **knows** how **comfort** those who **in** dis-

All **is** very true: **there** is yet the consideration

of a higher truth — a more exalting quality — taken into the account any estimate of Montgomery's poetry, by whatever standard it may otherwise be estimated — the all-pervading, all-inspiring element of scriptural, *i. e.* evangelical religion. It may be that characteristic is not always formally, and never, in offensive meaning of the term, offensively presented in poems; but it is, when not directly the subject, almost always the real and acknowledged charm of the bulk of them: indeed, exquisitely this purely spiritual interfused through the vehicle of thought, that while it so often regales and refreshes the holy and devout Christian, it almost surely delights and rarely offends the reader of mere taste, however otherwise accomplished.

It has sometimes been asked, What is the of Poetry? and also what kind of Poetry the useful? Both questions are vague: but in applying poetry the test of utility, it becomes important to define in what that equivocal itself is used; for it must be obvious that, if most useful, any article which the producer can once exchange for the largest sum of money, his poetry is the best which has the highest market value: but we adopt a different criterion of value, — if a directly moral religious standard be set up, then the ground of our judgment is altogether changed. These remarks have been suggested by the following questions submitted to, and given by, the late Rev. R. W. Hamilton, of Leeds, in 1841: — Questions, — "What living poet has, by his writings, rendered the greatest service mankind in a moral and religious point of view; what living poet will have the lasting fame?" Answers — "First, Montgomery, of Sheffield. I do think he is always poet: the 'Wanderer

of Switzerland* very poor. All his writings are evangelical, pure, and philosophic, that I have no doubt he is the most useful. Second—Indisputably, Wordsworth. He is as long as civilised man is to nature. I should have put him in the former section; but I think — it is but an individual judgment — that he has a passion for liberty, and little sympathy with *spiritual* religion.* These observations suggest a word as to Montgomery's indisputable pre-eminence in this branch of the "art divine"—as a hymnologist. On this merit we need not insist here; the compilation of every recent book of religious songs for choir service attests its recognition: and doubtless, wherever, and as long as the English language is understood, to say nothing of translations—the praises, confessions, and desires of evangelical worshippers will be uttered in the words of him who testified by his life, that he has expounded in his verse, how emphatically "prayer is the Christian's vital breath." This opinion is candidly submitted to every class of our religious readers except, 1.—Those who would absurdly compare Montgomery's "Original Hymns," *occasional* as they are, with any *systematic collection* as a whole; and 2.—Those who, bound to the exclusive use of an *authorised* hymn book, are precluded from adopting a new composition however excellent and desirable it may be.

This brings us to the purely religious character of Montgomery, a subject of infinite importance, but which has been abundantly elucidated by almost every page of these volumes, that little need be added here, except a remark on a single feature — we allude to the prevalence of that of spiritual depression which not

* See Hamilton, p. 100.

only pervades his correspondence, and often saddens ■ verse, but which was occasionally apparent in ■ confidential religious intercourse. Two explanations of this "psychological phenomenon" — for it really ■ such — have, in turn, been presented for ■ acceptance ; 1. That, from whatever cause, he lacked that amount, if ■ that sort, of *faith* in the Atonement — that direct and immediate act of appropriating ■ himself the merits of Christ as ■ Saviour, which it ■ ■ ■ the duty and the privilege of believers ■ exercise, ■ by virtue of which they are not only assured of their admission ■ the divine favour, but filled with peace and joy through believing ; failing this experience, the ■ of an important controversy, many otherwise really good people walk all their lives in spiritual doubt, obscurity, and distrust ; in the twilight, instead of the sunshine, of gospel privilege ; or, 2. That his mind ■ ■ constituted, *per se*, or ■ peculiarly influenced by his physical organisation, that deep and solemn, rather than bright and joyous, impressions, on whatever subject, and of ■ ■ of all, in religious experience, became ■ ■ his soul, sensitive ■ it was, to an extraordinary degree ; and hence in those apprehensions of scriptural truth, which to "common natures, whether actually more healthy and robust, or merely less self-accusing than his own, yield hope, if not joy, he ■ wont rather ■ realise the awful — the responsible, relation of ■ to the issues of time in eternity, than that merely cheerful and complacent recognition of the mercy of God ■ Christ, which is, happily, the more ordinary attribute of the real Christian. The clearest ■ ■ not always either the deepest, ■ ■ purest ; and there ■ "deep things" in revelation, and in human feeling, too, which neither disturb ■ interest ■ "passing crowd" of mankind.

apart from the general tone of self-abnegation which pervades many of these letters, there are frequent allusions to a specific act of religious disobedience upon which he would seem the writer's mind occasionally dwelt if it had been all but unpardonable sin. This, we need hardly repeat, was his early lapse from educational piety, and its direct consequences; and especially his eventual dereliction from his training for ministerial office among the Moravian brethren. That Montgomery wrote all these "bitter things against himself," he did every thing else, most conscientiously, cannot be doubted; but that he did so in reference to the particular point in question, without sufficient cause, is, we think, equally undeniable. To quote an appropriate sentiment, "Let a man conclude that the Christian ministry is the only vocation in which religious service can be rendered, or even the one in which, as a universal rule, the largest amount of it can be performed. In some cases this is unquestionably the fact." Few persons, we believe, would have been willing to subscribe to the abstract correctness of this statement, than Montgomery; and who besides will deny that his whole life was an illustration of its practical identity with his own in particular?

One of the most remarkable and influential peculiarities of Montgomery's religious character under almost every aspect, was an unaffected catholicity. We have personally known several, and have read of many more, good men, of various denominations, who have practically interpreted the apostolic injunction to "love the brotherhood" in a wider sense than only including his particular church; but he late revered

* *Review*, Nov. 1846. *U.* of *Wilson*, Esq.

friend was, with the least of religious indifference, the unsectarian Christian we knew.

What Montgomery might have been had pious design of those who were educating him for the Christian ministry been seconded by his own conduct, or his poetical character been wholly developed under the stimulating influences of metropolitan intercourse, of the quiet privacy of a provincial home, it is impossible to say. Nor the balance of probability by any altogether one-sided. His genius would doubtless have partaken of those advantages which arise from the immediate collision and comparison of mind with mind, as well as those arising from the circumstance of having all the resources of literary wealth which London affords immediately at hand: but, to say nothing of that discipline of trial, the growth of that delicate piety which thrives best in the shade, would those deep and tender sympathies, upon which the charm of his writings so essentially depends, have had any existence? As it was, the whole of Montgomery's adult life was passed in a provincial town, with slight and transient exceptions — multiplied in frequency during his later years: how his presence manifested and his influence felt amongst his townspeople during more than half a century, these volumes abundantly testify: and it is probably not exceeding the sobriety of truth to say, that at least one adult individual has died during that period, who is there a person living at this moment in the population of Sheffield, whose condition may not have been affected directly or indirectly by that presence.

APPENDIX,

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, &c.

AFTER the first volume of this work was in press, we were favoured, by Samuel Roberts, Esq., with a collection of letters addressed by Montgomery to his late father, and dating from the commencement of their friendship in 1807. Although mostly relating to what may be termed "business transactions" between the parties, they contain many passages which we should have been glad to have used, had they been earlier into our hands. Of the frank intimacy and mutual respect which for many years subsisted between Mr. Roberts and the poet, the preceding pages bear ample record : on general politics they differed widely, and especially on the subject of war, as will be seen from the following extracts, which not only illustrate Montgomery's characteristic toleration of personal rebuke, but also exhibit his opinions on a tax, the renewal and recent operation of which have been so strongly deprecated :—

"However difficult, if not impossible, it may be for me to think entirely with you on political subjects, especially on the subject of war, I have no difficulty in appreciating the kindness and candour which prompted you to address me; and I can sincerely assure you that I have read, and I consider the contents of your letter in a dispassionate spirit to that in which it is written. At my leisure I will, no doubt, lead me to more particular self-examination respecting my conduct and responsibility as the editor of a newspaper. Perhaps I do not estimate so highly the influence of a publication as ordinary as yours; as you do ;

I unreservedly [redacted] with [redacted] in estimating [redacted] responsibility of [redacted]. I [redacted] that [redacted] occasions I have [redacted] carried away by constitutional [redacted] habitual [redacted] of temper, to express my sentiments [redacted] and measures with a degree of bitterness, which [redacted] afterwards disapproved, [redacted] of my proneness to petulant asperity, I have for a long [redacted] past escaped [redacted] often [redacted] I could [redacted] mentioning [redacted] public affairs, even when the [redacted] provoking opportunities [redacted] occurred to tempt me [redacted] patriotic [redacted] vective. [redacted] I do not urge [redacted] justification of any intemperate [redacted] which I have actually been betrayed [redacted] by vanity or weakness. I often wish that [redacted] in my power [redacted] retire from my present situation, and then I dare [redacted] I should be almost [redacted] quiet [redacted] subject of [redacted] ruling powers as you could desire me, but I have not sufficiently availed myself of the opportunity that has been afforded me by a bountiful Providence of laying up store of provision for my few wants, [redacted] as [redacted] enable me to part with my [redacted] [redacted] its full value, and [redacted] it would [redacted] easy to procure. I must, therefore, if my [redacted] strength be spared, [redacted] years longer [redacted] post, and endeavour [redacted] discharge my duty [redacted] well [redacted] I can, and, [redacted] any rate, conscientiously, whether well or ill in respect of ability or usefulness. In that case your hints may be long necessary to check my violence, when I am too much interested [redacted] prejudiced [redacted] impartial. [redacted] any rate, they will [redacted] long held in grateful remembrance, and I hope, [redacted] the day of judgment, when they [redacted] pleaded in behalf of your faithfulness as a warning friend, they will [redacted] be urged to my condemnation as an incorrigible reprobate."—*To S. R. July 14.*

"Though I [redacted] one of [redacted] 'Wise [redacted] Gotham,' your factious Tale [redacted] welcome to a place [redacted] the *Isis*, but I [redacted] [redacted] would [redacted] [redacted] in time [redacted] place, if you were to read it in [redacted] Town Hall on Wednesday, when [redacted] all [redacted] [redacted] deliberate [redacted] the [redacted] of 'cheating our creditors,' [redacted] you represent our purpose [redacted] be [redacted] the [redacted] Tax. Differing [redacted] much [redacted] you and I do concerning [redacted] in general, [redacted] the [redacted] war in particular, [redacted] probably [redacted] a

of us, that we can think of anything. On reading your apologue, I perceive we are quite so much as I apprehended respecting the late war, which you are pleased to set forth under the name of 'hedging in the cuckoo in perpetual spring:' truly I always thought that war quite as preposterous, as it is in my mind a folly and the tolerable feature of it. With respect to the impost in question, I have never looked upon it as an immoral public impost which could be adopted. As a tax on property, it is the oppressor of the widow and fatherless, in extorting the full quota of it from their petty jointures and patrimonies, when they happen to be in the funds or in old houses. As a tax on income, it is a premium to the consciences of the King's subjects; it offers a premium to those who deliberately and successfully evade it. The wicked maxim, that it is a sin to cheat the King, is not confined, either to avowal or practice, to Jacobins and smugglers. I believe most seriously that this impost has been the cause of much disquietude of tender consciences, whose incomes are fluctuating and easily estimated, and on every occasion—you may say the innocent occasion—of more falsehood and criminality on the part of unprincipled men, than the burthens of the impost try put together. I pretend not to judge others, but I do not hesitate to confess, that though I never was a smuggler that I either refused or surcharged, I was one that perfectly followed my own feelings. I do not know what my income was in any one year since I was in business. Within the last few years, my published works have been a source of great emolument to me: for some time I was of this, considering what I received from them as principal capital, and income. But I found, far beyond my expectations, that there was a balance due to me every year from my booksellers: on this account, my mind became uneasy, and I carried what I received into my income schedule. I do not grudge, I grudge exceedingly to see this,—it seems as if I were coining my brains into money to carry on a trade, which I never did nor can I.

find in the highway a [redacted] of gold every year, equal [redacted] value to [redacted] profits of my poems, no tax-assessor would require a farthing [redacted] of it; [redacted] because I have earned, by a kind of labour [redacted] intense than any [redacted] imagine [redacted] have [redacted] proved [redacted] for themselves, a small reward, which [redacted] gradual, and [redacted] a round sum at once, I [redacted] pay a tenth part of [redacted] to be squandered in Spain or Canada, [redacted] put into [redacted] pockets of [redacted] arch-Jacobin Bernadotte! I have no patience when I think of [redacted] things; [redacted] when I [redacted] what the [redacted] summation of [redacted] cuckoo-hedging [redacted] is likely [redacted] be,—the division of Europe [redacted] a spoil among the three Eagles [redacted] Austria, Russia, and Prussia, — *either [redacted] [redacted] of England, or [redacted] defiance of her,* — it seems to me [redacted] if one tyrant had been displaced [redacted] make room for three. However, if [redacted] but be at peace with those three, they may divide and reign [redacted] they [redacted] on the continent. You [redacted] mistaken respecting my *company*; I have [redacted] political [redacted] clates; I am alone, and act alone, and I should be less condemned if my real situation were more generally known. I have done and suffered more for the public than all [redacted] flaming patriots in the town beside, of whom I [redacted] scarcely say, that I have less displeased *them* than their opponents, the flaming Loyalists, who know comparatively nothing [redacted] all of me.”—*To S.* [redacted] Jan. 30. 1815.

Vol. I. p. 55.

[redacted] = Ecton * read [redacted]

Vol. I. p. 77.

[redacted] may perhaps have occurred to the reader [redacted] [redacted] Montgomery's brief sojourn at Wentworth, [redacted] how he contrived [redacted] pay for food [redacted] lodging: [redacted] question [redacted] answered [redacted] following [redacted] [redacted] a very interesting [redacted] in his [redacted] handwriting:—

"On the second day of my pilgrimage I [redacted] at a little village inn [redacted] neighbourhood, where [redacted] by simplicity of my [redacted] and perhaps my forlorn appearance, induced [redacted] landlady [redacted] me very kindly; and she harboured me several days, without diving into my pocket."

Vol. I. p. 150.

We [redacted] requested to [redacted] that when [redacted] Murray wrote the [redacted] here referred to, "she [redacted] suffering from [redacted] affection of the brain which rendered her irresponsible for her words or actions, and afterwards compelled [redacted] Duke of [redacted] [redacted] place her in confinement."

Vol. I. p. 198.

We have received a note from [redacted] A. Barnett of Ballymoney, Ireland, suggesting the query—whether the "Patriotic Song, by a clergyman of Belfast," for the reprinting of which Montgomery was prosecuted, and the author of which he describes [redacted] "Mr. Scott of Dromore," was not the production of *Stott*, who figures in Byron's "Bards and Scotch Reviewers," and the "Hafis" of the *Belfast News Letter*, under which signature he addressed [redacted] poet [redacted] complimentary [redacted] elsewhere noticed. Our correspondent says, [redacted] "Stott of Dromore was not a clergyman, but [redacted] in business: [redacted] may likely enough, however, have written in praise of the French Revolution, when [redacted] celebration [redacted] place in Belfast; but he afterwards, like many individuals of higher note, as Southey, Coleridge, &c., became a Tory in politics, and wrote [redacted] on *that* side. [redacted] lived [redacted] old, and published an ode on the death of Napoleon, ending with—

. may [redacted] mercy find,

Although he showed [redacted] little [redacted] mankind."

[redacted] verses printed by Montgomery are [redacted] unlike [redacted]

of 'Hafiz,' easy going and prosaic." We have some attempts at point, but without success.

Vol. I. p. 288.

here attributed to the Princess Amelia written by Lady Tuftes, of Bath, published by her, with other poetry, in 1796. Mrs. Edwards, of Cheltenham, whom we are indebted for information, intimates the composition probably reached the Princess (in whose writing a copy may have found) through Elizabeth (late Landgravine of Hesse Homburg), Lady Tuftes presented her little volume.

Vol. III. p. 279.

Rev. Ignatius Montgomery went to Ockbrook from Bristol, not from Fulneck.

Vol. III. p. 279.

Mary says, she "is the authoress of the 'Royal Exile,'" a poetical production, the of which has always locally been with her; but, of her explicit disclaimer, however seemingly delayed, admitted. Who, then, did versify the imaginary trials of Mary Queen of in "Royal Exile?" Montgomery himself, who not only printed the work, revised the MS., always spoke of Mary as the writer, as such alludes to her complimentary quoted in Vol. III. p. 336.; and what is still more point, (her father), in dedicating "Royal Exile" to Hannah More, says:—

"The poetical part of is production of a very female just starting (tremblingly indeed, but ardently) on that wherein, since you were of her age, you persevered so long, so gloriously, and so successfully."

APPENDIX.

To whom ■■■ expressions allude? ■■■ Mary Roberts ■■■ the "Voice ■ ■ Star," mentioned Vol. IV. p. 181.; ■■ attributed ■ ■ Montgomery, on the authority of ■ letter by ■■■ Samuel Drew, editor of ■■ periodical ■■ which ■■ ■■■ appeared.

Vol. III. p. 323.

■ William Bagehawe, of ■■ Oaks—For "baronet" read knight.

Vol. IV. p. 69. *note*.

For "Dr. Tomline" read Dr. Blomfield.

P. 102.

The ■■■ of the vicar of ■■■ there mentioned ■■ Samuel; Titus ■■ his father, ■ minister held in high ■■■ among the Independents. Watson ■■ *not*, ■■ stated in Vol. I. p. 41. *note*, "vicar" of Halifax, but perpetual ■■■ of Ripponden in that parish.

Vol. VI. p. ■■■

In ■■ ■■ line of the quotation from Longfellow, read —
"Week in — week out —" &c.

Vol. VII. p. 24.

Montgomery, of course, highly appreciated ■■ ■■■ of Dr. Chalmers, ■■ ■■ a preacher and a writer, though ■ was chiefly ■ ■■ character that ■■ ■■ ■■ familiar with ■■ Scottish divine, whom he ■■ ■■ seen in Sheffield ■■ spring of 1817. A ■■■ from the poet, describing ■■ interview, ■ printed in Hanna's "Memoirs of Chalmers" (vol. ii. p. 98.), ■■ it refers ■■ an incident connected with the ■■■ pupils then in ■■ school ■■ Fulneck:—

VOL. VII.

U

"My visitor said that he had met all the Scotch lads meet in the inn there, and 'how do you think you were of them?' he asked. 'Indeed, I can tell,' I replied. 'I answered, 'there were *no* or *savants*;' (I pretend to spell the words as he pronounced them to my unpractised ear); and I was so surprised by surprise, that I exclaimed abruptly, 'It is enough to corrupt the English language in the seminary.' At that moment I had an impertinence, though without the slightest consciousness of such an application to my hearer; instantly recovering my presence of mind, I added, 'When I was at Fulneck School, I was the only Scotch lad there.' Whether this slip was noticed, or passed off as mere waste of conversation, I know not, but we went on together in another vein. . . . Dr. Chalmers said — evidently from sudden impulse, but a cherished purpose of his heart, — 'I mean to raise five hundred pounds for the Brethren's Mission thus!' 'Five hundred pounds for our poor missions!' I cried, 'I never heard of such a thing before!' He rejoined, 'I will do it.' And within myself I said, 'I will watch you, Doctor.' I did so; and, to the best of my recollection, a sum nearer six than five hundred pounds was raised."

The Doctor had previously (Eccl. Rev. iii. 1.) commended the evangelical character of the Moravian missionaries in reference to their influence among the heathen, in opposition to an article on the same subject in the Edinburgh Review (vol. xxi. p. 64.).

Vol. IV. p. 370.

Mr. Conder died December 27th, 1855, at his residence, John's Wood, London; the "Patriot," a newspaper which had been editorially connected with him for twenty years, publishing the following day a high, but unmerited eulogy on his character, from the pen of Mr. J. M. Ilare, his surviving son, who had the management of the journal. As we have elsewhere intimated, he was

hardly, if at all, [redacted] Montgomery a hymnal critic; and perhaps [redacted] has [redacted] the Christian choir with more useful [redacted] acceptable compositions [redacted] any [redacted] their contemporaries.

Vol. IV. p. 170. note.

[redacted] yellow riband which [redacted] have given [redacted] "Single Sisters" [redacted] Communities is, [redacted] seems, a mistake, [redacted] a [redacted] correspondent thus corrects :—

"Pink is the right colour, [redacted] our German sisters have been particular as to the shade of it. You [redacted] right [redacted] [redacted] other colours, though they are [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] as [redacted] [redacted] time, having [redacted] dropped with [redacted] other peculiarities of dress."

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